

Need or Want?

Sort what people need and what people want.

2.13 "The student will apply history and social science skills to understand basic economic principles by identifying natural resources (e.g., water, soil, wood, coal), human resources (i.e., people at work), and capital resources (e.g...."

NAME _____

DATE _____

NEEDS

Needs are things people must have to live safely and stay healthy.

Sleep is a need.

WANTS

Wants are things people would like to have, but can live without.

A gold crown is a want.

1 SORT _____ 8 items

Circle NEEDS or WANTS for each item, then choose two items and tell how you knew.

1. clean water

NEEDS

WANTS

2. a video game

NEEDS

WANTS

3. an ice cream cone

NEEDS

WANTS

4. a warm coat

NEEDS

WANTS

5. a doctor visit when you are sick

NEEDS

WANTS

6. a safe home

NEEDS

WANTS

7. a toy robot

NEEDS

WANTS

8. healthy food

NEEDS

WANTS

2

PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

3

MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new example of a NEED and one new example of a WANT.

NEEDS _____

WANTS _____

CHALLENGE

You can buy either a pair of winter boots or a pack of stickers. Which should you buy first? Explain why.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	clean water	NEEDS	People need water to live.
2	a video game	WANTS	A video game is enjoyable but not needed to live.
3	an ice cream cone	WANTS	Ice cream is a treat, not a need.
4	a warm coat	NEEDS	A warm coat helps keep a person safe in cold weather.
5	a doctor visit when you are sick	NEEDS	Medical care helps people stay healthy.
6	a safe home	NEEDS	People need shelter to live safely.
7	a toy robot	WANTS	A toy is fun but not needed to live.
8	healthy food	NEEDS	People need food to grow and stay healthy.

PART 2 • PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 • MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **NEEDS:** Need: medicine
- **WANTS:** Want: a skateboard

Challenge: I would buy the winter boots first because they are a need. Stickers are a want, so they can wait.

Sort key: 1 NEEDS, 2 WANTS, 3 WANTS, 4 NEEDS, 5 NEEDS, 6 NEEDS, 7 WANTS, 8 NEEDS. For Part 2, accept explanations that connect needs to health or safety and wants to things people can live without.