

# Ox-Cart Man

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Ages 4 and up  
Key Ideas: Goal Setting and Allocating Resources

Parent Guide

## Before You Read

The goal of *Money on the Bookshelf* is to help parents talk with their children about money. Each story deals with some special ideas about money. The Parent Guide will help you talk about and use these ideas.

## Ideas, Definitions and Objectives

### Idea: Goal Setting

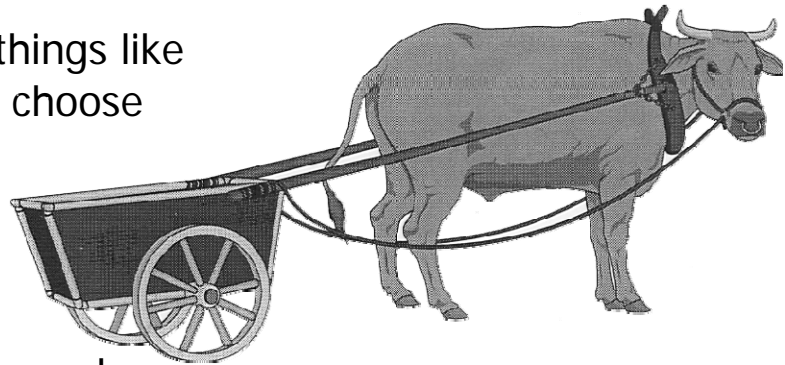
Definition: There are always things we want to do or to have. Goal setting is choosing something to work for.

Objective: to decide what is important to do or to have.

### Idea: Allocating Resources

Definition: Our resources include things like skills, time, and money. When we choose what to use to get the things we need, we are allocating resources.

Objective: to plan how to use different resources to get what we need.



## The Story

A farm family uses their time, energy, and talents to make or grow Almost everything they need. They also make and grow extra things to take to market and sell.

## **Something to Think About**

*First, read the book yourself and think about these ideas*

In the olden days, most people lived on farms. They made and grew almost all the things they needed to live.

The farm family in the story used its talents to make or grow the things they needed.

These skills are human resources.

The family also used natural resources like the wood from trees.

The goal of the farm family was to use all kinds of resources to get what they needed.

## **Something To Talk About**

*Before you begin to read the story with your children, look at the cover of the book with them. Ask what they think the story will be about.*

*As you read the story with your children, talk about these ideas.*

Why did the farm family work so hard to make and grow everything?

What were some human resources the family used?

What were some natural resources the family used?

Talk about the kinds of resources your family has.

How do these resources help your family get what it needs?

## Something To Do

### Play Job Charades (Ages 4 and up)

Ask your children to silently act out the jobs they have at home.  
The whole family tries to guess what the job is.  
Talk about how doing these jobs helps your family.

### Family Human Resources Chart (Ages 6 and up)

Use the Family Human Resources Chart.  
Talk about the jobs done by each member of the farm family.  
Talk about the jobs done by each member of your own family.  
Write the jobs in the blank boxes on the chart.  
Talk about the human resources used to get the family work done.

### Family Goal (Ages 8 and up)

Have your family talk about something they would like to do together.  
Some ideas might be to go on a picnic, go on a hike, or go to the library.  
Agree on one idea and write it down.  
Talk about, and make a list of things that need doing to reach your goal.  
What skills (human resources) do family members have to reach the goal?  
Match these special skills with the things that need doing to help the family reach the goal.

## Family Human Resources Chart

Each member of the family in Ox-Cart Man helped get the work done. Some of the things they did are listed on the chart. Use the blank boxes to list things each member of your family does to get the work done.

Father	Mother	Daughter	Son	Family
1. stitched harness	1. spun yarn	1. embroidered linens	1. carved brooms	1. made maple syrup 2. made candles











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