

TALK WITH YOUR GRANDCHILDREN ABOUT MONEY AND SAVING

Teenagers and young adults should learn about savings now in order to thrive in their adult life. As a grandparent, you're in a great position to offer a kind of awareness and education to your teen-aged grandchildren about financial literacy, with an eye to saving for college costs. This financial knowledge also can help teens develop a life-long sense of trust and security in themselves.

IT MIGHT SEEM TOUGH TO START TALKING ABOUT MONEY AND SAVINGS, BUT THESE THREE TIPS WILL HELP GET YOU STARTED.

- ✓ **Your grandchildren like to learn from your own experiences**, so refresh your memory about topics such as what you did as a teenager for spending money, how you paid for your education, and how you afforded to buy the first thing you really wanted without the help of your own parents.
- ✓ **Often they'll let you know when they want to talk**. When kids start asking questions such as "Why does this car cost more than that one?" or "Why is college so expensive?" you have a ready audience to talk about value, costs, and other financial topics.
- ✓ **Be upbeat when you talk**. It's not a lecture.

CONSIDER THESE SEVEN TIPS FOR EMPOWERING YOUR GRANDCHILDREN.

1 LISTEN TO THEIR WORRIES Saving money for that first car or affording class trips may be high on their list of worries. That's OK. Your grandchildren might need someone to just listen and maybe guide them to keep the big picture in mind.



2 HELP WITH WORK Encourage your teen grandchild to take a part-time job, at least in summer. There are also endless ideas online for teen entrepreneurs. Research them together!

3 MAKE A SAVINGS MATCH Offer to match their savings at a rate that's comfortable for you. You can also choose to deposit the match on their savings into a 529 college savings plan account.

4 HELP WITH GOAL SETTING Some large expenses in high school may actually be useful, such as buying a car to get to and from work. Before they're old enough to drive, help young teens set a goal and work hard to achieve it.



5 BE HONEST ABOUT EXPENSES Talk frankly about what it takes to rent an apartment and run a household.

6 TALK ABOUT CREDIT Educate teens about personal finance, particularly credit cards.

7 BREAK DOWN COLLEGE CHOICES Help your grandchild evaluate college choices with a lens toward the costs and benefits to choosing one school over another.

Make a deal with your grandchildren to help them save.

Create a customized TIAA-CREF COLLEGE SAVINGS PLEDGE with them today at AARPCollegeSavings.com/grandtalk


