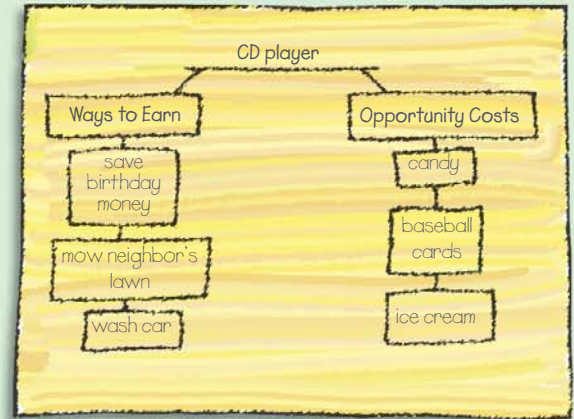


Wish List

My Rows and Piles of Coins by Tololwa M. Mollel (Clarion Books, 1999; 32 pp.; ISBN 0-395-75186-1) offers a golden opportunity to help youngsters understand resources and opportunity cost. Begin by explaining that people have limited resources (such as money earned by working) so they can't have everything they want. Invite students to brainstorm "wish lists" of things they'd like to have and ways they might build their money resources. Record several responses on the chalkboard. Read the book aloud and discuss ways Saruni builds resources (earns money) for his bicycle. Help youngsters recognize that Saruni saves by passing up opportunities, such as buying roasted peanuts. Further discuss Saruni's trade-off of purchasing a used bicycle instead of the more expensive new one. Next, have each student illustrate understanding of the concept by creating a graphic organizer like the one shown. The student chooses one item from his wish list and writes it at the top of the organizer. He then lists ways he might build resources to purchase the item and opportunities he will pass up in favor of the item he wants most. **UNDERSTANDING OPPORTUNITY COST, MAKING DECISIONS**



The ABCs of Service

Develop awareness of service career options by having students create alphabet poems listing community service workers. In *A Day's Work* by Eve Bunting (Clarion Books, 1994; 32 pp.; ISBN 0-395-67321-6), Francisco learns the meaning of an honest day's work when he and his grandfather spend a hot day pulling weeds on a hillside. After reading the story, point out that pulling weeds is a service, a job Ben pays the boy and his grandfather to do for him. Provide each student with scrap paper and a sheet of light-colored copy paper. The student brainstorms a list of service careers, one for each letter of the alphabet. After editing the list for accurate spelling, she arranges the words to form a poem on the colored paper. Then she adds a decorative border. If desired, compile the completed pages to make a class service career book. **IDENTIFYING SERVICES, UNDERSTANDING WAYS TO EARN A LIVING**

