

Economics for Kids: Goods and Services with Mirabelle

Lesson 1: What Can I Touch? (Goods vs. Services)

Time: 45 Minutes

Learning Objectives

- Mirabelle will define a "good" as something physical you can touch and keep.
- Mirabelle will define a "service" as an action or job someone does for you.
- Mirabelle will sort five different examples into the correct category.

Materials Needed

- A "Mystery Bag" (any pillowcase or gift bag)
- Small physical items: An apple, a toy car, a book, a pencil
- "Helping Hands" tokens (slips of paper with a drawing of a hand)
- YouTube Access: ["Goods and Services" by Homeschool Pop](#)
- Paper and crayons

1. Introduction: The Mystery Bag (Hook)

Ask: "Mirabelle, I have a mystery bag! If I give you what's inside, can you hold it in your hands? (Pull out the apple). Yes! Because this is a *thing*. But what if I give you a high-five or sing you a song? Can you put a high-five in your toy box? No! Today we are learning the difference between things we keep and help we receive."

2. The "I Do": Learning the Words

Instruction: Explain that "Goods" are things we buy and touch (like a lemonade cup). "Services" are things people do for us (like a doctor checking your heartbeat or someone cutting your hair).

Watch: View the first 3 minutes of the "Goods and Services" video together to see cartoon examples.

3. The "We Do": The Sorting Game

Place a basket labeled "GOODS" and a basket labeled "SERVICES" on the floor.

- Show a physical toy. Ask: "Is this a good or a service?" (Place in Goods).
- Act out brushing someone's hair. Ask: "Is this a good or a service?" (Place a 'Helping Hand' token in Services).
- Discuss: "When we go to the store and buy bread, that's a good. When the baker bakes it for us, that's a service!"

4. The "You Do": Draw Your World

Ask Mirabelle to fold a piece of paper in half. On one side, draw her favorite "Good" (e.g., a stuffed animal). On the other side, draw a "Service" she has seen (e.g., a bus driver driving the bus or a trash

collector).

5. Conclusion & Assessment

Recap: "If I can put it in a backpack, it's a..." (Good!). "If someone uses their skills to help me, it's a..." (Service!).

Check for Understanding: Give Mirabelle three scenarios (Buying a pizza, getting a haircut, buying a balloon). Ask her to jump to the left for a Good and to the right for a Service.

Lesson 2: Mirabelle the Business Expert

Time: 45 Minutes

Learning Objectives

- Mirabelle will identify the goods and services provided in her own family business.
- Mirabelle will role-play a transaction involving both a good and a service.

Materials Needed

- Examples of Mom's wedding invitations (the physical cards)
- Art supplies (markers, glitter, fancy paper)
- Play money or coins
- YouTube Access: ["Goods and Services" by SciShow Kids](#)

1. Introduction: The Family Business (Hook)

Scenario: "Mirabelle, let's look at what Mom does for work! Mom makes wedding invitations. When a bride gets her beautiful, sparkly envelope in the mail, is she holding a Good or a Service?"

2. The "I Do": The Secret Mix

Instruction: Explain that some jobs provide *both*.

- **The Good:** The paper, the ink, and the envelope. Mirabelle can touch these!
- **The Service:** Mom's hard work designing the art and typing the names. That is a service Mom provides using her talent.

3. The "We Do": Scavenger Hunt

Walk through the house/classroom together.

- Find a **Good** in the kitchen (e.g., a box of cereal).
 - Find a **Service** happening (e.g., Dad washing the dishes or a computer program helping us learn).
 - Look at Mom's workspace: Identify one "Good" (the paper) and one "Service" tool (the computer or paintbrush).
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4. The "You Do": Mirabelle's Invitation Shop

Activity: Mirabelle will set up a tiny "Invitation Shop."

1. She must "provide a service" by designing an invitation for a stuffed animal's birthday party.
2. She "sells the good" (the finished card) to you for play money.
3. **Challenge:** Ask her, "Mirabelle, am I paying you for the paper, or for your hard work drawing?" (Encourage her to say "Both!")

5. Conclusion & Assessment

Success Criteria: Mirabelle can explain Mom's job using the new words.

*"Mom provides the **service** of designing and the **good** of the invitation cards."*

Reflection: Ask Mirabelle, "When you grow up, do you want to sell *goods* (like toys or candy) or provide *services* (like being a teacher or a dancer)?"

Differentiation Strategies

- **For Extra Support:** Use a "Touch Test." If you can touch it with your finger, it's a good. If you have to say "Thank you for doing that," it's a service.
- **For an Extra Challenge:** Discuss "Digital Goods." Is a movie on Netflix a good or a service? (It's a service providing digital content!)