Supplemental Learning Materials for \$martPath videos: Bebe (Learns About Opportunity Cost)



In the video, Bebe Learns About Opportunity Cost, Bebe the parrot pirate must choose between flying South to continue pirating, or flying West to follow her dream of working on steamboats. With help from Megan, Bebe will evaluate the cost of both choices.

Whenever a choice is made, something is given up. The opportunity cost of a choice is the value of the best alternative given up. When you make a decision, the most valuable alternative that you don't choose (your second choice) is your opportunity cost.

Discussion Questions:

Why does Bebe have to find a new job?

She can't work for Blackbeard the Pirate anymore because he got captured.

What are the two opportunities that Bebe has to choose from?

Being a parrot for Captain Cook in the South and working on steamboats out West.

What are the positive and negative things about working as a parrot for Captain Cook?

Positives - His boat has water slides.

Negatives -- It's the same job Bebe already has, and she wants to try something new.

What are the positive and negative things about flying out West and working on a steamboat?

Positives - Working on a steamboat is Bebe's dream

Negatives -- It's something new, and she's only ever worked in pirating

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What is Bebe's second choice called; the option she does NOT choose?

Opportunity cost.

What is the opportunity cost if Bebe chooses to fly out West and work on a steamboat?

Bebe gives up the chance to ride on the water slides.

What is the opportunity cost if Bebe chooses to work for Captain Cook in the South?

She gives up the chance to try something new and achieve her dream.

What opportunity did Bebe decide to choose? Which choice was the opportunity cost? Do you agree with her choice?

She chose to fly out west and work on a steamboat. The opportunity cost was working for Captain Cook on the boat with water slides.

Answers may vary.

Think of a time when you had to decide between different choices. What choice did you make? What was the opportunity cost of that choice? (note to teacher/parent: all the choices that aren't picked are not the opportunity cost of a decision; only the next best one, or the one that's the second choice.)

Answers may vary.

Additional Children's Literature Recommendations:

Uncle Jed's Barbershop by Margaree King Mitchell



Teaches children about opportunity cost, specialization and accomplishing goals.

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Erandi's Braids by Tomie dePaola



Children will learn the concepts of opportunity cost, decision making and different cultures.

Mitchell Is Moving by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat



Teaches children about choices, opportunity cost and friendship,

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