

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Writing Prompt:**

**Write an argumentative essay about whether children should be paid for doing chores.**

**Your argumentative essay must be based on this prompt and topic, and it must incorporate ideas and evidence found in the sources provided.**

**Use our best writing to complete an essay that:**

- is focused on your claim:**
- combines evidence from multiple sources with your own elaboration to develop your ideas;**
- is organized and includes transitions within and among ideas;**
- provides citations for quoted material and source ideas; and**
- demonstrates correct use of grammar and language appropriate to the task.**

**Write your multiparagraph essay to an academic audience in the space provided.**

## **Source #1 – Should Children Be Paid For Chores?**

1 - A weekly allowance from parents is something that most children have in their homes when they reach a certain age. But should children get paid to do chores?

2 - Ron Lieber, the author of a new book titled, “The Opposite of Spoiled” states that because parents do not get paid for family housework, neither should the kids. There are certain jobs in a house that need to be done for everything to run smoothly in the house. This includes jobs like picking up clothes in their bedrooms, picking up the towels off the floor in a bathroom, and cleaning dirty dishes. Outside jobs that need to be completed include taking the inside trash to the garbage can and raking leaves if they have a yard.

3 - All these chores are part of the responsibility family members share. Family members do these chores for each other. Money should not be a part of the loving duty that family members owe to each other. This helps to create adults that are very responsible. Parents are not paid for chores they need to do regularly like laundry so neither should the children.

4 - When children are not paid for chores, there is a sense of teamwork that takes place in the family. Everyone is responsible as much as she or he can to keep the home tidy and running smoothly. Even toddlers can carry a dish to the sink. This way children of all ages can help with the chores. Working together also shows the respect that everyone has for their home and each other. Children learn that there are responsibilities in the family that go beyond themselves.

## **Source #2 – Family Life**

5 - Parents agree that paying children for doing chores is an excellent idea! The reason parents like paying their children for doing chores is that it helps the children understand money. When the children get paid, they learn how to spend only the amount of money they have. They learn about budgeting. At the same time, they learn to save their money as well.

6 - When children want to spend their money, parents should make them spend time researching the cost of items. Determining which items are the best buys for the amount of money they have is a great lesson! Getting paid for chores should be more than just getting the money and then quickly spending it.

7 - Many children are not able to get jobs at a young age. Therefore, paying them for completing chores may be the only chance children have to earn money. Mrs. Kilken a mom, says, “How can children learn about the need to save and spend money if they don’t practice doing those things as children.”

8 - Parents are afraid that if they pay their children for the chores they do, children will not learn about the value of volunteering. Oftentimes, when children help with chores, parents encourage their children to help each other. Also, if there are opportunities to help in the community, children are less likely to volunteer if they are not getting paid to help.

9 - Sometimes paying for chores can lead to other problems. A child can make \$10.00 an hour for babysitting or maybe even more for cutting the lawn. The small amount of money that parents can afford to pay children to do chores, may not be worth it to the children. This forces parents to pay more money for chores to be completed.

### **Source #3 – Paying Kids for Chores**

10 - Parents today seem to be confused about whether to pay children for completing chores around the house.

11 - Some parents say paying a child to help sends the wrong message. It also risks creating a sense of entitlement (I deserve it!). This leads to teenagers who are likely to drive a hard bargain just to take out the garbage. Children should do routine housework without pay as a tool for teaching citizenship and service. Research published in 2009 in the Anthropology of Work Review, said children did not find receiving payment for doing chores very motivational.

12 – Based on a new survey, some parents are adopting the pay-for-work view. Parents are going beyond pocket change, paying an average of \$25 a month just for doing laundry, says the American Express Spending & Saving Tracker.

47% of parents say paying children for chores is a good idea because it teaches children about handling money.
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29% of parents say paying children to do chores gives children pocket money.
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40% of parents think children should not be paid for chores because parents say they give the children money when the children need it.
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34% of parents think that children should not be paid for chores because children should help around the house as a part of being a family.
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