

A Need or a Want?

Learn together, one small step.



Look closely

On a rainy day, do rainboots and a new toy do the same job?



Story 1 / 3



Ayuan went shopping for rainboots with Mom. His old boots leaked, but a shiny toy car stood near the shop door. 'I want both!' he said. Mom replied, 'You really like that car. Today we planned to find boots that keep your feet dry.'

Pause and ask: Is liking the toy car wrong?

Story 2 / 3



They did not argue about whether the car was good or bad. They made two lists: a problem to solve now, and something he might like later. Boots went on the first list; the car went on the second. 'Is wanting it wrong?' he asked. 'You can like something and wait,' Mom said.

Pause and ask: What problem needs attention first today?

Story 3 / 3



At home, Ayuan drew the car in his wish notebook. He noticed that his wooden blocks could make a garage. In a few days he might still want the car, or he might change his mind. The notebook gave him time to think, without pretending he did not like it.

Pause and ask: How does the wish notebook give him time?

A Buddhist idea

We can like something and wait.
Care for what we have.



Talk together

Why did Ayuan need to deal with his boots first?

How is writing down a wish different from pretending not to want it?



Try an activity

Draw a need, a wish and something to care for.



For grown-ups

Read aloud, discuss and try a small activity.

Stories and exercises: BlessFu

Illustrations: AI-assisted

Full references and guidance are in the companion booklet.

