

Wants and Needs

Needs are what you must have in order to survive. The basic needs are food, clothing, and shelter. **Wants** are the extras. You don't need these to survive although they make life more pleasant.

Complete the following chart. Think about the Tylers at Blackacre 200 years ago to help with the "Basic Needs in the Past" Column.

Opportunity Costs

If the Tylers bought an expensive item like the Carriage that is in the barn, they would not be able to buy other items. Their opportunity cost is what they gave up in order to buy the carriage.

Because money was scarce for pioneer farmers such as the Tylers, they had to decide what was most important to their survival and give up wants that were less important.

Think of two purchases you made. What was the opportunity cost for each purchase (what did you give up)?

What you bought	The Opportunity Cost
1. a new CD	Cool sunglasses
2.	
3.	

