



United Churches Credit Union Youth Newsletter

September 2011

BACK TO SCHOOL EDITION

It's school time again! You're probably feeling excited and maybe a little sad that summer is over. Some kids feel nervous or a little scared on the first day of school because of all the new things: new teachers, new friends, and maybe even a new school. Luckily, these "new" worries only stick around for a little while.

ABC'S OF SAVINGS

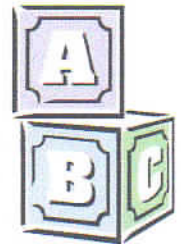
A - Allowance

Right now, your main job is going to school and learning all you can. But there are some ways that you can earn money no matter what grade you're in. Ask your parents if you can earn money by doing chores at home such as vacuuming or dusting. Talk to neighbors about cutting their grass or doing other outdoor chores. Once you have earned some allowance, the next step is deciding what to do with it.

B - Build up your savings

To plan what to do with your money, take a look at how much you have. Let's say that you have \$20.00. You might decide to:

- Put \$5.00 aside for your family's winter break vacation (A vacation is something you want)
- Put \$10.00 in your credit union savings account
- Spend the last \$5.00 on some school lunches (Food is something you need)



C - Certificate of Deposit

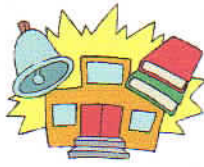
A certificate of deposit is a special kind of savings account where you deposit money into your credit union account and promise to keep it in your account for a specific amount of time. In return for your promise, you will earn a higher dividend rate than you would get on a regular savings account. United Churches Credit Union offers great rates on our Youth Certificates of Deposit.

To learn more about how to earn and save money visit our [Kid's Savings Club](http://www.unitedchurches.org) link on our website at www.unitedchurches.org under the products and services tab.



A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Answer: savings account



After a summer of sleeping in or doing things on your time, the alarm bell announcing that first day of school can be a rude awakening. Whether you're an anxious new freshman or a confident senior, heading back to school signals a time of transition: new classes, new teachers, new schedules, and a new social scene. Dread it or love it, you have to go to school.

ABC'S OF CREDIT

A - Ask questions

Before applying for your first car loan or credit card, do your homework. Talk to people you trust such as family members, adult friends, or the staff at United Churches Credit Union to get advice on topics such as how to establish credit, the pros and cons of credit cards, and how consumer loans work. You are not expected to know everything about these things; it's all new to you! No question is too silly or basic to ask.

B - Borrow wisely

There are some basic credit rules that you should follow:

1. You must pay what you owe.
2. Keep track of how much you spend.
3. Save your receipts and compare them with your monthly statement.
4. Never lend your credit card to anyone.
5. Pay your bills on time-and in full if you can. Otherwise you must pay interest on the amount that you don't pay in full.
6. Owing more than you can repay, or paying bills late, can damage your credit rating.



C - Check your credit report

Once you start establishing credit, make sure to check your credit report regularly. Your credit report contains information about your income, debts, and credit payment history. It also shows whether you have been sued, arrested, or have filed for bankruptcy.

Your credit history is what credit grantors, landlords, employers, and insurance companies use to determine your credit worthiness. The better credit you have, the better interest rates you'll secure on loans. So, it's in your best interest to make sure the information contained in your report provides an accurate picture of your financial history. You can order free reports online at Annualcreditreport.com. You can also request your reports by phone by calling toll free (877) 322-8228, or complete the [Annual Credit Report Request Form](#) and mail it to: Annual Credit Report Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281. Phone and mail requests will be processed within 15 days of receipt.

To learn more about establishing and managing credit wisely, visit our [Teen Savings Club](#) link on our website: www.unitedchurchescu.org under the products and services tab.

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