



A CHRISTMAS CAROL PRICELESS VALUES

Grade Levels: 3-5, with adjustment K-2

One of the central themes of **A Christmas Carol** is the value of money. Scrooge values money more than anything, and he judges others by how much money they have. But not everyone in the play feels the same.

OBJECTIVES

- Students will understand the role of money in the play and how its value to each character contributes to their attitude and circumstances.
- Students will begin to discover their own value system.

MATERIALS

- Value Charts (attached)
- Erasers, markers, crayons, colored pencils, pens, etc.

PROCEDURE

1. Hand out copies of the attached Value Charts to each student.
2. Instruct students to use the worksheet to chart the values of every character in the play. Ask students to think about **material values** (able to be seen or touched, such as money or a car) and **non-material values** (unable to be felt by the senses, such as love or happiness).
3. Once students have finished filling out the chart, discuss their findings:
 - Which characters' values are most similar to your own?
 - Which two characters' values would you say are most different from each other? Is there a conflict between those two characters in the story?
 - Which characters value mostly **material** things? Which characters value mostly **non-material** things? Is there a difference in how these characters act toward others?
 - How is wealth treated in the story? Is it a sign of moral corruption and greed, success, or something else?
 - What do you think **A Christmas Carol** is saying about people's values? Do you agree with the play? Why or why not?
4. Have the students fill out the second part of the Value Chart with what they value in their own lives. Then have each student share their list and reasons with the class.

**A CHRISTMAS CAROL
VALUE CHART**

Character	Value
Scrooge at the start of the play	
Bob Crachit	
Fred	
Tiny Tim	
Jacob Marley before his death	
Mr. Fezziwig	
Belle	
Scrooge at the end of the play	

WHAT DO YOU VALUE?

List three **material values**, things that can be seen or touched like money or a car. Then list three **non-material values**, things that cannot be seen or touched like happiness or friendship. Explain why you value each item on your list.

Value	Why?
Material value:	
Material value:	
Material value:	
Non-material value:	
Non-material value:	
Non-material value:	