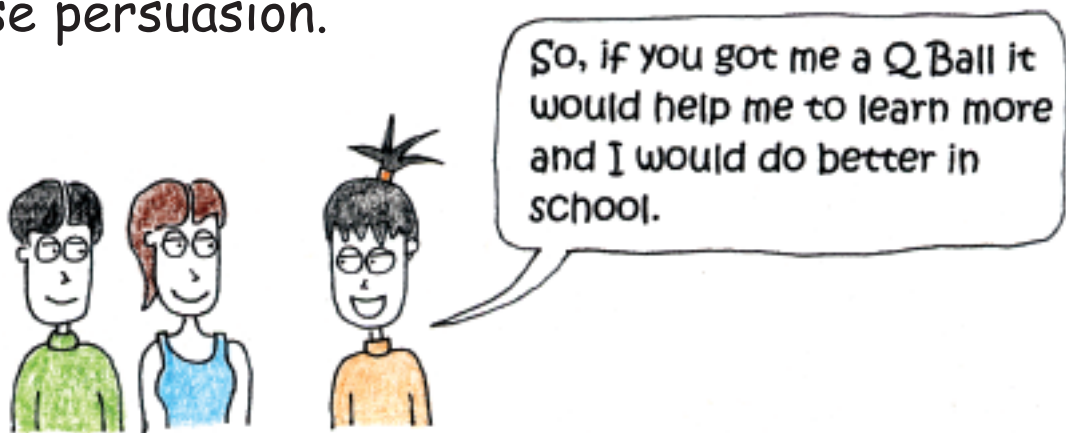


I decided that I had to have a Q Ball.
On the way home I thought of all the ways I could get my parents to buy me one. Here are my top three ideas.

1. Get parents in a good mood before asking.

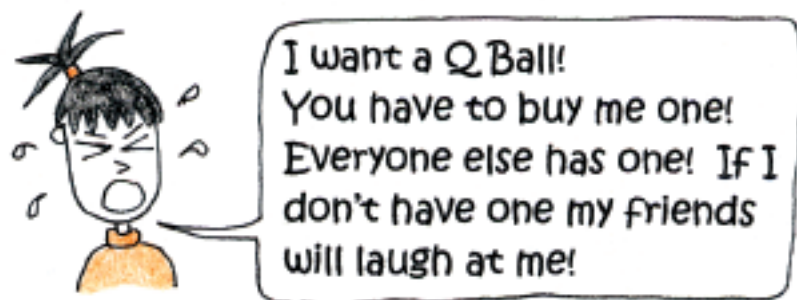


2. Use persuasion.



3. Scream until they buy me one!

I only use this if all else fails. It's a bit childish! (Fred uses it all the time!)



When I got home Dad was in the kitchen. I went to work straight away!

I set the table for dinner without being asked.

I told my Dad how nice his new jumper was. (Actually I think it's hideous!)

I didn't even moan when Fred flicked mashed potato at me!



After dinner I did the washing up. When I had finished I asked Mum and Dad if I could have a Q Ball.



I could not believe it! I had been nice to Mum and Dad for a whole hour and it had not worked!

Next I had to work out how much money I could save each week. To do this I added up all the money I spend and took it away from the money I get each week.

Pocket money	£5
Cleaning the car	£2
Total	£7
Magazines	£1.50
Trading cards	£3.00
Sweets	£2.00
Total	£6.50

I can save 50p a week.

This is called a cashflow.



This is my Auntie Flo.



Then I had to work out how long it would take to save up the money to buy a Q Ball.

Weekly saving = 50p
Cost of Q Ball = £59
Number of weeks = 118!!!



This was ridiculous! It would take me over two years to save up the money! If I really wanted to buy a Q Ball I would have to spend a lot less money each week.

I looked at my cashflow and decided how to save money.

If I only bought sweets on Friday I could save £1.50.

MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI



I could save £2.00 a week if I only bought one pack of trading cards instead of three.

I could ask for an extra £1 for cleaning the inside of the car.



Now my cashflow looked like this...

Pocket money	£5	Weekly saving = £5
Cleaning the car	£3	Cost of Q Ball = £59
Total	£8	Number of weeks = 12
Magazines	£1.50	
Trading Cards	£1.00	
Sweets	£0.50	
Total	£3.00	

That was a lot better than three years. I decided to start saving straight away.