

# Encourage kids to start a summer business



**CANYON VIEWS**  
MARK DUNCAN

Sometimes parents, and even those of us who are teachers, don't realize how much learning can go on outside of school walls. This is especially true during the summer, when there are no regular classes to attend or tests to take.

Helping children open their own small business is a great way to teach them financial skills, a solid work ethic and many other valuable life lessons. Plus, they'll be motivated to follow through with their ideas by the potential to earn extra money.

For children who are too old to require full-time child care but too young to hold down a "real job", filling up all that free time

during the summer months can be challenging. If you're a parent, think back to when you were a kid—what did you do to make a few bucks over the summer?

Summer is the perfect time to encourage your 'tween' to become a young entrepreneur, as there are many seasonal work opportunities available, such as yardwork or pet-sitting for a neighbor.

Here are a few small business suggestions for children to try during the summer, as well as a few valuable concepts they might learn in the process.

**Business Ideas:**

**1. Sell lemonade.** This is a classic go-to business for kids. Neighborhood lemonade stands continue to be popular because, hey, who can resist a cool drink on a hot day? Interested children can even expand this popular concept and add a bake sale to

their stand if they like to make cookies. Just be sure that children are covering the cost of their expenses when trying this business.

**2. Babysitting, pet-sitting and dog walking.** Whether it's pet-sitting or babysitting, the demand is out there. Summer time is also vacation time, meaning people are looking for responsible sitters to help watch pets or give them a few child-free hours out with friends. If children are old enough, boys and girls can earn a few bucks by babysitting or pet-sitting. Dog walking is another good option for a starter business.

**3. Special skills.** Is your child especially good at music, sports or math? Encourage them to put their skills to use, perhaps by offering sports or music lessons for beginners, or by starting their own tutoring service for younger children to pre-

pare them for the next school year. Also, if a younger person does well with computers, they can offer to help teach older neighbors how to use a computer.

**4. Yardwork.** Summer is the growing season and a few neighbors may be looking for help mowing lawns or weeding. Children should be on the lookout for yards with overgrown flower beds and offer to help with these projects. Perhaps an elderly resident could also use some volunteer assistance trimming their shrubs.

**5. Car wash.** How about a team project, where a group of neighborhood kids get together to clean cars for a whole day? The group may even decide to split their proceeds, giving a portion to a local charity.

**Life Skills:**

**1. Setting goals.** It's important for young en-

trepreneurs to establish goals for their new business venture, even if it's just having fun. Older children should write down specific goals before they start, such as how much money they want to make, and a time frame for reaching their goals.

**2. Money management.** A summer business is a good way to reinforce math skills or learn new ones. Younger kids can practice counting change for customers, or adding up their expenses and sales. Older children can learn about record keeping and balancing a checkbook, or even determine their profit margin after a summer business.

**3. Communication and customer service.** Children can learn a variety of communication and socialization skills through running their own business. They have to listen to their custom-

ers, promote their products, and provide a wide range of customer service duties in order to be successful.

**4. Marketing techniques.** Children operating a lemonade stand don't need to buy TV ads, but they can use low-tech methods to promote their business. Their creative side will shine while drawing brightly colored flyers or homemade business cards to hand out while going door to door around the neighborhood to promote their business. They can also ask family and friends to post information about their new business on social media.

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# Marion County Fair Board welcomes all ideas

**JILL INGALLS**  
MARION COUNTY FAIR EVENT COORDINATOR

There are so many new things happening for the 2016 Marion County Fair it's hard to keep track. This marks its 156th year of the Marion County Fair – making it one of the oldest ongoing events in the state of Oregon.

That's impressive! What could possibly keep people coming back year after year?

The Marion County Fair Board works hard to make sure the annual fair has something new to offer every year. New music on the stage, exciting activities such as camel rides, meeting a superhero or two, and competing in the Salem Teen Idol contest are just a few of the activities you'll find at this year's fair.

Fairs were once THE thing to do and the only event that happened where everyone turned out. It was important to see who baked the best pie, who got bragging rights for the biggest peach, or whether Aunt Martha's quilt won that year. 4-H and Future Farmers of America activities have remained strong elements and provide the backbone of the

fair. But, what was once known as Open Class has slipped from being a MUST do and see to no one really knows what Open Class means anymore.

With a theme of Social, Local and Fun, and a renewed sense of value to the community, the Marion County Fair is embracing some new and exciting ideas – which we hope will become traditions.

Ask an 8-year-old child if they play with Legos. The answer is almost always an emphatic yes! Well, guess what? Lego creations are welcome at the fair. Not only can kids show off their Lego creations, but they can earn awards as well as receive a free pass to attend the fair. And it doesn't stop at Legos – we've also added phone photography and more. Enter your scrapbooking and paper arts, poetry and collections – in fact, we've even added a coloring contest. For more about public competitions, visit [www.mcfair.net](http://www.mcfair.net).

Fair entries make great summer projects. It's gratifying for youth, and their parents, to see the result of their efforts on display at the fair. And, projects aren't just for kids! We see ideas on Pin-

terest every day. Check out the Marion County Fair on Pinterest for ideas.

We're also excited about his year's main stage line-up. The main stage is full of great acts – highlighted by our Friday

and Saturday big name acts. On Friday night, Grammy nominated "Reckless Kelly" will delight fairgoers with their Americana/Roots Rock. Saturday night, the arena goes Wild West with the Rough Stock Rodeo fol-

lowed by Canadian pop country duo "High Valley" winner of the GMA Canada Covenant Awards.

Check out the Social, Local and Fun at the Marion County Fair July 7-10 at the Oregon State Fair-

grounds. For more details, visit [www.mcfair.net](http://www.mcfair.net) and follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/MarionCountyFair](http://www.facebook.com/MarionCountyFair)).

Marion County Fair Event Coordinator Jill Ingalls can be reached at [mcfair@ingallsagency.com](mailto:mcfair@ingallsagency.com).

## We Are Here to Help Answer All Your Questions!

**Who do I call first?**

When a death is unexpected and a person is not on hospice, nor in a licensed care facility, your first phone call may be to the funeral home. However, the police must be notified first. Often the funeral home will call and notify the police for you.

Once police are notified, they will come to the place of death and assess things. They will also contact EMT to come and certify the time and that a death has occurred. Afterward, the police may phone the nearest funeral home to assist in transportation of the individual. In certain cases, the medical examiner's deputy may also be requested at the scene to determine if an autopsy may be required. In other cases, an autopsy may not be necessary. If family wishes to pursue an autopsy, they should notify the funeral director.

**Is embalming required?**

No. Only in certain circumstances. Embalming is required in cases of communicable disease or prolonged public viewing (6 hours or longer). Most often times the funeral home will utilize mortuary refrigeration, as required after the first 24 hours of death.

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