



Kids' Businesses

Part 1

Teacher Reads A business makes, buys, or sells products (things). A business may also provide services (they do something for you) in exchange for money. A business is successful if its products or services are things that people want and are willing to pay for.

People may think that only adults can start and run a
11 **business**. But kids can start and run a business, too. There
22 are lots of useful things kids can learn when they run a
34 business. For example, they learn what it is like to do work
46 and get paid for it. When kids get paid, they learn how to
59 be careful with **money**. They might spend some money and
69 save some money. They also learn to solve problems, to be
80 on time, and to complete the work when they say they will.

92 If kids want to start a business, they need to plan each
104 phase, or step. In some U.S. states, kids may need a permit,
116 a written pass, to run a business. It is best to check that out
130 before the business gets started. Each state has laws about
140 how old kids must be to work and what kind of work they
153 can do.

Part 2

Teacher Reads One hard part about starting a business is deciding what product to make or what service to offer. It helps to make a list of all the possible ideas and then choose the best one.

155 To start a business, kids should choose what they like
165 to do and know how to do. If kids like animals, they may
178 want to start a pet-sitting or dog-walking business. If they
190 like children, they may want to start a **babysitting** business.
200 For kids who like to be outside, they may start a yard work
213 business. In the summer, the kids can mow lawns and dig
224 out weeds. In the fall, they can rake leaves. In the winter, they
237 can clean snow from people's steps, walks, and driveways.



Part 2 continued

246 Next, kids need to make a plan. They should think about
257 what tools or training they might need. They may also write
268 down some goals, such as how long they want to work each
280 week and how much money they want to make. Kids also
291 need to think about how to get customers for the business.
302 They might hand out pamphlets to people, put up ads where
313 they live, or put ads online.

Part 3

Teacher Reads Keep reading to find out about other business ideas.

319 There are many things kids could try for a business. For
330 example, kids who like to make things could sell crafts such
341 as art, candles, quilts, or knitted hats and scarves. Kids who
352 know quite a lot about smartphones and **computers** could
361 start a business to help other people set up their smartphones
372 and computers and fix problems that come up. If kids like to
384 teach, they could teach other kids subjects from school and
394 help them with homework.

398 No matter what business kids choose, they should do
407 their best work and never quit. These skills will help them
418 now as kids and also later as adults in all that they do.

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