

Summer Ripe For Teen Entrepreneurs

(NAPSA)—Finding summer work is a priority for many teens, especially with the economy in a slump and families facing tough financial times. However, with unemployment at its highest rate in decades, traditional employment will be tough to find. Becoming a summer entrepreneur may be the answer. Here are some businesses that can be up and running in days with little or no investment.

Give lessons. Whether it's guitar or skateboarding lessons, tutoring in math or English, or neighborhood craft time, kids enjoy learning from teens and parents will welcome the opportunity to help keep children busy during long summer days.

Yard Work. If a teen has access to a lawn-mower and basic gardening tools, the business is ready to go. Services could range from standard lawn care to planting seasonal gardens, harvesting vegetable gardens or doing seasonal yard clean-up.

Window Cleaning. Do the job people dread most—they'll pay you well and it's easy with the right tools. Start-up cost is less than \$20 for a top-quality squeegee and scrubber, such as those made by Ettore Products Company. For information on how to clean windows quickly and easily, like the pros, call 1-800-4-ETTORE for a free guide.

Babysitting. Summer can pose particular difficulty for parents. Children need more hours of care, yet summer options are often limited. For the highly responsible teen with a great deal of patience and love for children, this option could bring the added satisfaction of being a role model to little ones.



Setting up a window-washing service could be a money-making way for teens to spend spare time.

Animal Care. Summer means vacations and many families prefer to leave their pets in familiar home surroundings rather than a kennel. Offer to provide an hour of play for a pet as well as the standard feeding and clean-up.

To find customers, develop a flyer with a list of services, any experience or special skills that are relevant, and contact information. Make it eye catching and focus on the customers—how does the featured service solve a need or problem they have?

Post the flyer on community bulletin boards, ask relatives to give them to friends and colleagues, and go door-to-door in the neighborhood. Don't be shy—approach anyone who's a possible prospect.

Then, follow through on each job. Arrive on time, be courteous, do the best job possible, and go the extra mile to make customers happy. Ask for referrals and leave behind contact information. Keep a list of customers and check back periodically for additional work.

And who knows? In addition to earning money, this summer could lead to life as an entrepreneur where the potential for success is unlimited!