

Consider getting your kids involved or keeping them busy with a lemonade (snacks) stand on the day of the Garage Sale. They will learn and put to use several skills that they already have and maybe learn a few new ones too.

Supplies

Before you get started, you'll need some all-important supplies:

- Lemonade mix
- pitchers
- ice
- cooler (optional)
- paper cups
- card table and chairs
- an over-sized umbrella or access to a shady spot
- change
- two poster boards and markers

- If you decide to offer other items – here are some suggestions:
- Bottled water
- Small bags of chips/granola bars
- Home-made popcorn in ziplock bags

A business plan

A lemonade stand could very well be your child's first experience with operating his own business - so “strategize” as such. Draft out a plan of what you'll need (see above), where you'll set up (see below), and who is responsible for what (i.e. Jenny will make lemonade refills while Johnny restocks the cooler with ice). This “business plan” will help keep everyone organized and on task.

Location, location, location

Pick a nice shady spot in your front yard if you can but away from the garage sale tables.

Signs

Have your kids put those poster boards, markers and artistic skills to good use by making a sign for the front of the stand and maybe one for behind it, which indicates the products available and the prices.

Supply and demand

Help your kids anticipate the amount of lemonade, (water, chips, popcorn) they'll need to get their business rolling without running out too soon or having tons of lemonade left over. (Though if you end up with leftover lemonade, pour it into ice cube trays or popsicle trays for a great summer treat!)

Service with a smile

Don't forget to remind your kids that customer service is No. 1... but so is having fun! Encourage them to be professional and friendly and have a good time.

Community Participation

Consider discussing with your children the option of donating the proceeds of their stand, or a percentage of them, to a local charity such as the Lions Family Spray Park or the Oilfields Food Bank. This is a great time to teach them the rewards of helping other people.