

Cha-Ching Family Activity #6

Sweet Pepper Designs

Overview: Kids have many things that they like to do or make for fun. They may not realize, however, that they can earn money by doing and making these things. Understanding the characteristics and behaviors of successful entrepreneurs can help kids foster the skills of setting goals, creating a plan for how they will use their money, dealing with competition, responding to feedback, and reevaluating plans. In this activity, families discuss setting and working toward financial goals and examine why it is important to have goals related to our life goals. They learn how entrepreneurs set goals and explore why we often have to spend money to make money.

Activity Duration: Varies

Outcomes

- Families will interview a business owner to learn more about what it takes to be a successful entrepreneur.

Materials

- Paper
- Pencil
- Video: [Entrepreneur](#)
- Video: [Sweet Pepper Designs](#)

Procedure

1. Ask your child to share what they know about entrepreneurs. Discuss the story of a famous entrepreneur and how their initial goal evolved into a successful product or service. Work together to list some characteristics and behaviors of successful entrepreneurs. (Note: Consider watching the video *Entrepreneur* to support your child's understanding of entrepreneurship.)
2. Watch the video *Sweet Pepper Designs* with your child.
3. Discuss the things that Pepper had to do in order to make her t-shirt business successful. Ask questions, such as the following, to help your child draw personal conclusions:
 - What gave Pepper the idea to start her t-shirt business?
 - Did Pepper start earning money right away? What did she have to do in order to start earning money?
 - Did people buy Pepper's t-shirts right away? What did she have to do to get people to buy her shirts?
 - After Pepper started selling t-shirts, how did she make sure she would keep earning money?

- What happened in the end? Was that good or bad? Why?
 - Do we know anyone in our family or in our community who is an entrepreneur?
4. Together, find and interview a local business owner to discover more about what it takes to be an entrepreneur. Consider finding a business owner related to your child's interests, skills, talents, and extracurricular activities.
- Before the interview, work together to brainstorm questions you will ask. Suggestions for possible questions include:
 - What was your goal when you started your business? (Life goals and money goals! How were they related?)
 - Did you have life and/or money goals related to earning, saving, spending, and donating money? Why is that important to you?
 - Did you have to spend money to get your business started?
 - What kinds of things did you buy or rent when you started?
 - How long was it before you began to earn money?
 - Did your business change from your original plan?
 - Did you have help, or did you do it by yourself?
 - What characteristics did it take for you to be an entrepreneur?
 - Did you have to learn some of them or did they come to you naturally?
 - Did you always want to be an entrepreneur?
 - What was the worst piece of advice you were given? Why?
 - What was the best piece of advice you were given? Why?
5. After the interview, work with your child to write and send a thank-you note to the business owner for spending time talking about being an entrepreneur. Ask your child to include one new thing they learned from the business owner.
6. Discuss the similarities and differences between the business owner's experience and Pepper's experience. Have your child draw conclusions about whether or not it is easy to be an entrepreneur and how one would measure success.

Additional Resources:

- [Famous Entrepreneurs](#)
- [10 Steps to Start Your Business](#)