

# IN-SCHOOL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Schools have different rules and policies, so make sure you check with your teachers and principal before trying any of the suggestions below. Remember, any venture that makes money could also be used as a fundraiser for your student association or other worthy cause!

## Ten ideas for in-school ventures for fun and profit

Looking for entrepreneurial ventures you could try in your own school? Try these—or come up with some ideas that are a lot better!

- Decorate lockers for birthdays. You might find students willing to pay to have their friends' lockers decorated on their birthdays.
- Make and sell cakes for birthdays in school.
- Make and sell custom-made birthday cards on your computer. Or you could make other festive cards for other holidays as well.
- Produce custom-made organizers (day planners) for your school.
- Design and set up web sites for students, staff, or anyone who needs one and can't do it themselves.
- Do custom online research for staff or students. Find out what they need to know and help them with their research.
- Design and produce calendars with pictures of families, teachers, or friends on them.
- Talk to your local chamber of commerce about offering job-finding services for the summer or after-school work.
- See if your community would pay for an all-student-produced holiday season street decoration.

## Not-for profit ideas for schools

Many of the same skills that are used by entrepreneurs to start money-making ventures can also be used for non-profit ventures. Not-for-profit activities can provide you with the opportunity to practice brainstorming, researching markets, teambuilding, planning, and many other entrepreneurial skills while you also help your school and/or your community.

Here are some examples of not-for-profit activities that you might try in your school. (You will probably be able to think up many more—and better—projects than these!)

### Food Bank Drive

Problem: Food banks need more donations to meet the need in your community.

Organize a team to find innovative ways to raise money and/or collect food for a local food bank.

### Clean Community Project

Problem: There is litter in the parks and areas near schools where kids hang out.

See if you can brainstorm some innovative new ways to motivate students and adults alike to keep parks and the outside school environment clear of trash and litter.

### Youth Activity Centre

Problem: Kids say there's nothing to do and no place for them to hang out.

Maybe you and your entrepreneurship class could find a way to turn an existing, empty facility—in or outside the school—into a youth activity centre.

### School Spirit

Problem: Your school seems to be lacking in school spirit.

Maybe you could develop a leadership program for your school that would get more students out to sports competitions, dances, or other activities that will raise school spirit.