

101+ Business Ideas For Kids

By: Kris Solie-Johnson

Ideas for Animal Lovers

1. **Pet Daycare** - Playing with cats and dogs before or after school or while owners are on vacation can be a great service to a busy owner who does not have time to play with their animal as much as the animal needs.



2. **Walking Dogs** - Taking dogs on walks can get them their needed exercise and if the dogs get along, you can walk more than one at a time.
3. **Training Dogs** - Successful obedience training is based on doing it repetitively. You can be an added resource to new pet owners.
4. **Poop Scooping for Dogs** - Although this doesn't seem like so much fun, there is quite a bit of money to be made in helping owners keep their yards clean. You can set up a weekly schedule to come to their house.

5. **Cleaning Aquariums** - If you have experience in cleaning aquariums, you can start a business helping other people clean theirs.

6. **Cleaning Litter Boxes** - Just like poop scooping, it doesn't sound fun, but it is definitely a service people will pay for. You might want to combine dog and cat scooping services.

7. **Grooming Dogs** - Giving dogs a bath can be a challenge for any owner.

8. **Breeding Worms** - Although this one may seem crazy, bait shops and fishermen always need more bait. In addition, gardeners purchase more worms to help their gardens.

9. **Breeding Hamsters/Rats** - If you have ever owned a hamster, you know that they can multiply even when you don't want them too. Even so, hamsters are still a very popular pet.



10. **Making Cat Toys** - This is a perfect idea for a cat lover and craft person. Cat toys are relatively easy to make, but can be sold for a higher profit.



11. **Making Personalized Pet Dishes** - Pet owners spend over \$50 billion annually on their pets. The largest

increase has been in the high end products and personalized products fit perfectly with that trend.



12. **Making Pet Treats** - One of the other big trends in the industry is that owners are looking for healthier options for their pets. Homemade treats can be a great option.

Creativity - Art & Music Ideas

1. **Entertaining at Kids Birthday Parties** - As a parent of 3, planning and organizing birthday parties is a big challenge. If you have a fun skill, including dressing up as a costumed character, making balloon animals, performing magic tricks or face painting, you can be a huge benefit to a parent.
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3. **Making Personalized Pet Dishes** - Pet owners spend over \$50 billion annually on their pets. The largest increase has been in the high end products and personalized products fit perfectly with that trend.
4. **Making Fruit Arrangements** - What fun to bring or have a traditional flower arrangement made from fruit.
5. **Making Candy Bar Arrangements** - Candy bar arrangements are fun and different. This is a great gift idea for graduation, kid parties or other fun events.
6. **Music practice buddy** - Every parent tries to encourage their child to practice their musical instrument. If you have experience with a musical instrument, consider helping a younger artist practice.
7. **Teaching Musical Instrument Lessons** - If you love teaching, consider teaching the fundamentals to a younger artist. Sometimes kids will relate to a young teen better than they will an adult.
8. **Start a Rock Band** - If you have a true passion for starting a rock band, then go for it. I was really impressed with the Justin Bieber movie and how hard he worked to get to where he is.
9. **Making Homemade Cards** - There are 7 billion greeting cards sold every year and they range in price from 50 cents to \$10. Birthday cards 1/3 of all the cards sold are birthday cards.
10. **Making Lip Gloss or other Cosmetics** - Estee Lauder

- started her business as a teen selling a homemade face cream door to door. She later sold that business for \$2 million.
11. **Making Headbands -**
Headbands are a style trend that we have seen for a few years. There are always new and fun ones being created. The next one could be yours.
 12. **Making Hair Scrunchies and Ponytail holders -** Although scrunchies or ponytail holders are not as popular as they used to be right now, there is still a market for ponytail holders in school colors.
 13. **Making Hair Bows and Flowers -** Hair bows and flower clips have also seen an increase in popularity as more and more celebrities wear them.
 14. **Making Friendship Bracelets -** Friendship bracelets were inspired by Native American crafts. The tradition is that you should wear a bracelet until the cord breaks naturally.
 15. **Knitting Scarves and Hats -** Living in a colder climate, hats, mittens and scarves are a must to have.
 16. **Making Holiday Ornaments -** Many people are looking for unique holiday ornaments to give as gifts or use in their own home.
 17. **Making Decorated Tins -** Decorated tins make a homemade food gift even more special. The tins can also be used for storage containers in teen bedrooms.
 18. **Making Homemade Wrapping Paper -** Hallmark estimated that over \$1.1 billion in gift wrap is sold. Each year people are spending more and more on gift wrap and are looking for unique gift wrap.
 19. **Creating Scrapbooks or Memory Books -** Scrapbooking is part of a \$29 billion craft industry. Creating scrapbooks takes time and even with all the supplies, many are not very good at it.
 20. **Creating T-shirts -** Threadless.com founders started their company with \$1,000 and now employs 80 people. A good t-shirt business is dependent on good designs.
 21. **Making Decorations for a Party -** Everyone wants a party to be special. Party

directions including piñatas, table decoration and signs adds a very personal touch to a party.

22. **Making Jewelry** - Check out Maddie Bradshaw who started when she was 10 and within 2 year was selling 50,000 bottle cap necklaces PER MONTH. www.m3girldesigns.com

23. **Making Birdhouses/feeders** - This business is perfect for the person who likes to work with wood. You may be able to

find wood scraps at a cabinet manufacturer.

24. **Making Key Chains** - There are over \$250 million registered vehicles in the United States. This is a big market and one you can tap into.

25. **Making Zipper Pulls** - Zipper pulls come and go. Make your own fashion statement and start creating some unique designs that kids can keep on their backpacks.

Yummy Food Ideas

1. **Organizing Bake Sales** – You can create a bake sale as a charity event and share part of the profits or run a mini bakery at a local location.
2. **Serving Food at Parties** – When I was a teen, my aunt hired me to help refill serving dishes at a holiday party. It allowed her to enjoy the party more than if she had to worry about everything. Think about graduation parties, holiday parties and larger special events, like family or class reunions.
3. **Baking Cookies around the Holidays** – It seems that parents always run out of time during the holidays. Have a lot of different kinds of cookies adds to the holiday.
4. **Making Super Bowl Munchies** – If you love to cook and find fun unique recipes, you can turn your passion for food into a fun business around the Super Bowl and other events.
5. **Making Fruit Arrangements** – What fun to bring or have a traditional flower arrangement made from fruit.
6. **Making Candy Bar Arrangements** – Candy bar arrangements are fun and different. This is a great gift idea for graduation, kid parties or other fun events.
7. **Making Jams & Jellies & Pickles** – One of the biggest hits at farmer's markets is pickled cucumbers, green beans and homemade jams. In any food business be sure to manage your food costs so that you make money.
8. **Cooking with Kids** – Kids love to cook. You can create a mini kids cooking class. Be sure to ask your parents if you can use the kitchen first.
9. **Making Pet Treats** – One of the other big trends in the industry is that owners are looking for healthier options for their pets. Homemade treats can be a great option.

Dig Into Something Green

1. **Breeding Worms** – Although this one may seem crazy, bait shops and fishermen always need more bait. In addition, gardeners purchase more worms to help their gardens.
2. **Making Garden Compost** – There are about 12 million people who have moved to organic gardening, up from 5 million only a few years ago. Compost and organic compost are growing fields.
3. **Organizing Your Own Garage Sale** – I am sure you and your parents have a lot of stuff that they would like to sell, but setting it up takes patience.
4. **Organizing a Garage Sale for Someone Else** – Everyone has too much stuff and most would love to have a garage sale. But the time commitment for pricing and managing a garage sale is too high. Consider a business that sets up everything for them. Check out Ben Weissenstein's story at www.grandslamgaragesales.com.
5. **Opening a Mini-Consignment Clothing Store** – I love this idea. Girls love new clothes. Agree to take your friends clothes and create your own mini store in your house. Split the profits with each of them depending on what sells.
6. **Collecting and Selling Books** – There is a great market for selling books both online and offline. eBay or Amazon have large used book sales and used bookstores buy books offline. Having your own book sale is also an idea.
7. **Collecting and Selling Children's Clothing** – Much like the consignment idea for your friends clothes, you can create a mini store for children's clothing.
8. **Renting Video Games** – Just like Gamefly.com, you could be the local source for renting games to friends.
9. **Clipping Coupons** – A lot of people are trying to save a few bucks. You could offer a coupon clipping service to help them save money. One of my mom-friends gives her daughter $\frac{1}{2}$ of the value of all the coupons. What a great win

for the daughter and a savings for the mother. Watch the show Extreme Couponing for some ideas.

10. **Recycling Pop Cans and Other Metals** – An aluminum can that is recycled can end up on the shelf again in as little as 60 days. For approximately 30

cans, you can get 50 cents. But it doesn't really take any money to start this type of business.

11. **Growing Plants** – There are approximately 35 million homes with gardens. One trend in the gardening industry is unique plants

Home Services - In and Outdoor

1. **House Sitting** - One of the biggest fears of a home owner is that someone will break in while they are on vacation. In the northern states in the winter, we also have to worry about pipes freezing. Checking on houses while owners are gone gives the owners piece of mind.
2. **Watering Plants** - Home owners can spend anywhere from \$20 to hundreds of dollars on plants for their homes. Any owner does not want that investment to die while they are gone for an extended time period.
3. **Taking in the Mail** - This is another service you could offer if home owners are out of town.
4. **Packing Boxes for Moving** - A great market for this business is helping senior or their families pack up if they are moving to a senior care center or other facility. Unpacking and washing dishes after moving is a great service to add on.
5. **Cleaning Up After Parties** - After a great party, nobody wants to clean up and put everything back. Normally you use a lot of dishes that can't be thrown in the dishwasher.
6. **Cleaning Homes** - Start with the basics, vacuuming, sweeping, mopping, cleaning bathrooms. This can be a great help for busy parents.
7. **Washing Windows** - Washing windows especially for other homeowners can be a great service with many, many customers.
8. **Cleaning Garages** - If you have a talent for organizing things, cleaning garages may be a great option for you with a lot of flexibility as you have time.
9. **Cleaning Basements or storage spaces** - Most basements get filled with "stuff" over time. Helping homeowners organize and clean these spaces is highly needed.
10. **Cleaning Cabins (for New Season)** - When you first open a cabin, you need to make beds, rewash dishes, clean windows and a variety of other duties

to be done before you are able to enjoy the cabin.

11. Cleaning and organizing

Kitchen Drawers - When you move into a new house, you rarely change where you put silverware or utensils. This is a great service if someone is moving into or out of a house.

12. Cleaning Homes for Seniors -

Seniors really need help with the basics first. Sometimes they can no longer bend to clean the bathtub and other areas.

13. Raking Leaves - The funny thing about leaves is that they all seem to fall all at once. Raking leaves can be a huge help to a very busy home owner.

14. Mowing Lawns - There are approximately 90 million homes with lawns in the United States. Normally these lawns need to be mowed every week depending on watering and fertilizers. Mowing lawns also opens up other services that a home owner may need.

15. Shoveling Snow - In the northern states, a home owner can get pretty tired of shoveling snow after a few snow storms. This is a service that they are more than willing to pay for.

16. Cleaning Pools - If you have knowledge of taking care of a pool, this could be a great business for you especially if you like to be outside during the summer.

17. Spreading Mulch - This business is more popular in the spring versus any other time of the year.

18. Painting Mailboxes/Fences - Remember Tom Sawyer? Painting fences can be very time consuming but makes a house look so much better.

19. Making Garden Compost - There are about 12 million people who have moved to organic gardening, up from 5 million only a few years ago. Compost and organic compost are growing fields.

Working with the Younger at Heart

1. **Music practice buddy** - Every parent tries to encourage their child to practice their musical instrument. If you have experience with a musical instrument, consider helping a younger artist practice.
2. **Entertaining at Kid's Birthday Parties** - As a parent of 3, planning and organizing birthday parties is a big challenge. If you have a fun skill, including dressing up as a costumed character, making balloon animals, performing magic tricks or face painting, you can be a huge benefit to a parent.
3. **Cooking with Kids** - Kids love to cook. You can create a mini kids cooking class. Be sure to ask your parents if you can use the kitchen first.
4. **Exercising Buddy for Kids** - Childhood obesity is on the rise. You can take an active part in helping with this movement by creating an exercise program for kids. You could even make it sport-specific.
5. **Being a Nanny for a Family** - There are so many great reasons to become a nanny if you enjoy working with kids. You get to impact a young person in a very positive way.
6. **Helping with School Projects** - You can be a great help to a parent and child with helping on school projects. Some parents are not very creative and so may need some help designing and building projects.
7. **Painting Faces at Fairs** - Lots and lots of kids love to get their face painted. In the beginning, you can start with simple designs like balloons and then keep practicing to build your portfolio ideas.
8. **Spray Painting Crazy Hair** - Much like face painting, creating crazy hair is another way to work with kids. These types of businesses do well where there are a lot of kids. Once one gets it done, many are to follow.
9. **Counseling at Day Camp** - A lot of camps have junior leadership programs and some of them are paid programs.

Check out your local YMCA or church camp for open positions.

10. **Babysitting** – Babysitting has been a long time favorite business for many young people. If you really enjoy kids, then this may be the perfect business for you.

11. **Parent's Helper** – A parent's helper is like a babysitter, but normally the mother or father is still close by. You would help the parent by entertaining the kids while they get some other work done. Look for work-at-home parents who may need some extra time.

12. **Planning Kids Birthday Parties** – Kids birthdays have started to become more and more complex and expensive. If you can help parents put on a great party at a set cost, you are going to have plenty of business.

13. **Helping at Kids Birthday Parties** – May be a parent

doesn't need help planning a party but actually helping out during the party. If a parent has a lot of kids coming or some complex projects, you would be a relief.

14. **Reading to Kids at Your House or Their House** – Most schools require kids to read every night. You could encourage the child to read and take turns reading to them.

15. **Entertaining Kids After School** – Many afterschool daycare options require that parents sign up full time. If a parent needs one day a week or on notice, you could provide that service.

16. **Tutoring Help for Kids** – Many tutoring services charge \$20-\$60 per hour. If a parent wants a little help for their child, you could be a great option.

Running Around -Ideas for the Sport Nut

1. **Exercising Buddy for Kids -**
Childhood obesity is on the rise. You can take an active part in helping with this movement by creating an exercise program for kids.
2. **Practicing Sports with Younger Kids -** This idea is like the exercise buddy, but more sport specific. Think about the mini sport camps that you have been to in your life. Research practice drills and you are ready to go.
3. **Refereeing Soccer -** Many communities look for young people within their community to referee their recreational soccer programs. Contact yours directly to see what opportunities may be available.
4. **Umpiring Baseball or Softball -** Like soccer, recreational baseball and softball programs needs umpires. Check with your local recreation program.
5. **Caddying for a Golfer -** A caddy is someone who helps a golfer with their golf bag. Most caddie jobs are set up with either the golf course or through personal relationships.
6. **Lifeguarding at a Pool or Beach -** The safety of swimmers is at the top of any pool owners list. Being a lifeguard is a big responsibility, but if you like working outside, it is worth the time.

Bucks and Bytes - Great Technology Ideas

1. **Setting Up New Technology (computers, wireless networks, phones)** - Since technology is changing so quickly, there are many people that need help setting up address books and other basic functions of their new purchases.

church groups or associations) who want a website, is time. Being able to create one to save them time is a huge benefit.
2. **Teaching Computer Classes** - Whether you teach one-on-one or to a small group, computer software classes will always have students. Many small business owners need help with basic programs like Excel and Word. You can help them become more efficient in their own businesses.
3. **Fixing Viruses & Other Computer Problems** - Computer knowledge is learned over time and through experience. You can start with virus removal and then move on to fixing other computer issues. This is how Robert Stephen's the founder of Geek Squad got started.
4. **Creating Websites** - Website programs have become easy to use. The biggest challenge for business owners or groups (like
5. **Researching (cell phone plans, others)** - Understanding a cell phone or cable bill is becoming increasingly complex. In addition to purchasing the right phone can also seem daunting to some people, especially seniors.
6. **Marketing Other People's Products (Affiliate)** - This is one of the fastest ways to build a business because it takes very little money. Research a little on Clickbank.com to see all the electronic products and pay rates available. Then find the market that would like to purchase those products.
7. **Making Web Videos for Business Websites** - Videos for blogs and marketing materials is a rapidly growing market segment. Video cameras have also come way down in price, so it isn't as expensive to get into the business.

8. **Creating a Business in Second Life** (www.secondlife.com) -

There have been many young graphic designers who have created businesses in Second Life, including creating renditions of college campuses and wings for avatars.

9. **Consulting On Social Media** -

If you are familiar with Facebook, Twitter and other social media websites, you can help companies start using these technologies to expand and build their businesses. Even small associations, boy scout troops and non-profits need your help to connect better with customers.

10. **Managing Social Media** - Many companies want to start using social media but don't know how to keep it up on an on-going basis. You could help them by

creating posts for Twitter and Facebook. Or you could help them manage their social media advertising to make the best use of their advertising dollars.

11. **Blogging for Money** - If you have a topic that you are very excited about and you want to share it with others; a blog may be the perfect avenue. You also need to love to write. Although video blogging is also becoming popular. You can start a free blog with Wordpress.org or Squidoo.com.

12. **Creating Apps for Apple products** - There are more and more books becoming available about how to create your own App. Read the inspiring story of Robert Nay who created his own App, Bubble Ball and has been downloaded over 9 million times.

Cars, Boats and Money, Oh My!

1. **Washing / Detailing Cars** - Everyone needs their car washed sooner or later. If you enjoy being outside, this may be the perfect business for you. You could even "hire" other kids to help you wash more cars and offer more services.
2. **Washing Boats** - Just like cars, boats need to be washed at the beginning and especially at the end of a season.
3. **Cleaning RVs & Campers** - Have you ever jumped into a camper that had been sitting out all winter? Almost all recreation vehicles need to be cleaned at the beginning of the season.
4. **Being a Designated Driver** - At some holiday parties, the hosts like to serve alcohol. If you have your driver's license,

you could offer your service to the home owner so that no one would need to drive home after drinking.

5. **Parking Cars for Private Parties (Valet)** - If home owners have limited parking at their home, you could offer to drive cars to a location where they would not be towed.
6. **Being a Kid Driver** - I know many parents that especially during the summer need help getting their kids to sports practices, games, and camps.
7. **Putting in docks in spring** - If you live in an area where there is a lake with a lot of docks, you may want to offer your services to put in docks. If someone is trying to open their cabin for the season, putting in a dock is very time consuming.