



LIL' VENDORS KID'S MARKET

The Washington Farmers Market would like to encourage our youth to participate in the market and the community to be aware of the talents our youth possess, so we're designating June 25, 2026 as Kid's Market.

All KIDS ages 4-18: you are specifically invited to our Kid's Day at the market! On this special day, JUNE 25, there will be no setup fee for any vendor 18 and under. We encourage the young entrepreneurs in our community to try your hand at selling your products. Are you a young baker, or artist, or gardener or have some other talent that you would like to show to our community and see how interested others are in your creations? What can you sell? It needs to be something you have made yourself, examples might be something as simple as a lemonade stand, or perhaps unique jewelry that you've created, or some vegetables that you've grown in your garden.

The first 8 kids to enroll will get to set up around the fountain, and the rest will be displaying their wares throughout the Market square alongside the adult vendors.

We hope the Kids Market will help build the confidence and skills of our participating youth vendors and give them a space to showcase their skills and passion with our community. Perhaps some of these kids will become our next generation of adult vendors at the Washington Farmers Market.

- Items must be created and sold by the child. No reselling of wholesale items.
- Must Provide cash box with change, table, and chairs.
- Set up begins at 3:00 pm and the booth should be set up by market opening bell at 5 pm on Thursday, June 25 (note – no sales permitted before the open bell at 5).

This Kid's Market invites the youngest farmers, bakers, and makers to bring their goods and make a few sales! They'll be selling around the fountain or alongside our Vendor Members to earn a few dollars and maybe even learn a thing or two! On this special day you should expect everything from handmade bracelets, bookmarks, decorated housewares, artwork. Others may distribute baked goods; and even produce or flowers they've grown.



Hints for preparing for that first market experience:

We're so excited you're going to join us at the market! The thought of selling around lots of other people might feel a little scary at first, but we're here to help you, every step of the way! Follow the steps below and you'll be a successful entrepreneur in no time!

1. What Should I Sell?

Before you can start a business, you need to come up with something to sell! Think about a product that solves a problem, is a hot new trend, or just something you love to do. Your product can be anything handmade: food, art, games or services; but most importantly, it should be something that people want to buy.

2. Make a Business Plan

An important part of having a successful business is setting goals for what you want your business to become. How much product do you want to sell over how many weeks? Do you just want to make a little spending money, or are you saving up for camp or a larger purchase? Writing out goals will help you to stay focused on what you need to do, so you don't waste time and money, and gives you a way to measure how you're doing. Have a parent help you.

3. Manage the Money

Now that you are starting a new venture, you will need to manage your money carefully by keeping good records, and your personal and business money separate. You can even start to think about what you will do with your earnings- save it, spend it, invest it back into your business.

4. Setting the Right Price

Setting the right prices for your products can get a little complicated. If you set your prices too low, you might sell a lot, but not make much money! If you price your items too high, it might be more than people want to spend and you could end up selling less than you hoped. Ultimately, you'll need to do some homework to figure out how much it costs to make your product and how much you can sell it for, to make a profit. Once you've determined the best price, don't forget to clearly display the prices for your customers.

5. Make your business different

Chances are, that no matter what you decide your business will offer, you'll run into competition! If a bunch of people are selling the same thing at the market, why would they choose your product over someone else's? You might offer an extra value to your



customer, make your buyer's experience memorable, or deliver your product in a unique way, to make your business stand out from the rest!

6. Don't Eat Your Inventory

Since your product is going to be amazing, it might be tempting to eat or use the product yourself, or let friends have it for free, but using up your products will quickly eat away at your profits. Lost products means lost profit. Be sure to keep your products for paying customers.

7. Attract Attention to Your Booth

In a market full of other booths, what's going to make customers come buy from you? You'll need a good marketing plan to stand out from all the others, so you can grab buyer's attention- and you'll only have a few seconds to do it! You can decorate your booth using balloons, decorative paper, bright colors and signs to grab people's interest. Use your imagination and design a plan and strategy that customers will stop and notice, giving you a chance to close the sale!

8. How to Sell Lots of Stuff

Sometimes the scariest part of running a business is actually talking to the customers! You can feel more confident about this by role playing at home what you will say, before you get to the market. Practice acknowledging your buyers with a greeting or question that draws them into your booth. Tell them what you're selling in just a few words and once you've got their attention, then go into more detail!

9. Learn from Experience

Businesses can always get better, even after they've been in business for years! As you start working on your business, it'll be important to continually look for ways to improve. Can you buy supplies cheaper, make products more efficiently, or use a different method of advertising or selling? Remember, not everything you try will be successful and that's ok. The goal is to be able to look at an experience and understand what went wrong, and how you can do better next time.



10 Tips for Parents

Helping your child experience entrepreneurship is not only fun, but offers them invaluable life-long lessons in the process!

1. Let your child do the selling.

This is THE most important part of the Children's Entrepreneur Market!

We strongly encourage parents to stay a comfortable distance from their child who is selling. We find that when a parent is present, customers will inevitably direct their conversation toward you (as is culturally normal), and your child will quickly defer to you during a transaction. If you remove yourself, your child is free to engage in this amazing conversation one on one with the buyers. Stay within earshot but far enough away that your child isn't really aware of your presence and they will come away from the experience empowered and confident! If you feel you need to sit in the booth, when a customer comes, just allow your child to conduct the sale (you can wink/smile at the buyer, but don't insert yourself into the sale).

Another bonus of staying comfortably away from your child, is they will likely do better financially! There is nothing more impressive to buyers than a child who can articulate what they're selling and handle the entire transaction.

2. Children are in charge!

Make sure your child's offering is not too complex for them to handle on their own. If they're unable to handle the bulk of the transactions themselves, please consider waiting for a future date to participate or figuring out a way to simplify the experience to their level.

You can help them price items in increments they can calculate and make change for, offer fewer products and role play interacting with customers. You might be surprised how young children can manage a small business operation, if they're well prepared at home.

3. Be your child's GUIDE.

It's tempting to take over when your child gets stuck, but if you give them a minute to act independently, they just might figure it out! Encourage autonomy but let them know you'll be right there to guide them.



Youth Entrepreneur Market

Child's Name: _____

Supervising Adult Person(s): _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Phone #: _____ Email _____

Will you need electricity? Yes or No

Type of business, what will you be selling at your booth?

What is unique about your business? Why should I buy from you? What do you do best? Include anything you think may be appealing.

What's your story? How did you decide to get started in your business? What was your inspiration?

Why do you want to be a part of the Washington Farmer's Market?
