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TEENAGERS AND THE SUMMER JOB

IT REALLY DOES SET THE FOUNDATION FOR FUTURE SUCCESS!

If you tell a teenager to get a summer job, they'll probably roll their eyes at you. Now, don't get me wrong. Plenty of kids will jump at the chance to get a summer job, but they usually need a little extra push to make it happen. A lot of successful business owners I know grew up having a summer job through high school or college. Indeed, for many successful people, the summer job was their first real experience with employment.

But once a teen lands that job, they start to realize just how beneficial it can be, even if the job itself isn't all that great. For one, it puts money in their pocket and bank account. And two, it gives them early workforce experience they can use later on.

As parents and grandparents, the best thing we can do is encourage the summer job and *help* them find something but not force the issue. I emphasize the word "help" here. Be a resource and guide for your kids as they explore opportunities. They might not know how to navigate the job hunt, interview, or even craft a resume. There's a very good chance you know how to do most, if not all, of those things — even if you are a little rusty.

Even before pursuing a summer job, learning how to find jobs, write resumes, and interview are crucial skills every kid needs. Most schools don't teach these skills, so it's on us to fill in the gaps. You should take time to walk your kids through these steps even if they have a role lined up, but don't make it too easy for them!

I mentioned that one of the main benefits of a summer job is a paycheck, but I'd be remiss not to mention a few others. Along with earning money, a summer job is an opportunity for kids to learn about budgeting and saving. This job may be the first time in their lives they earn their own

money to spend however they choose (within reason, naturally). We can, once again, act as guides to help them along the way.

While money is great, that's just the tip of the iceberg. The real meat of the summer job is experience and skills. It's important to remind kids that just because they're doing a job for a summer doesn't mean they'll be doing it for years to come. It's a starting point, and they can take the fundamental skills they learn with them to enhance their future work and education.

The fundamental skills I'm talking about involve people — how to interact with employers, customers, the general public, you name it. Then there are business skills — how to engage in and run certain aspects of a business. Coming in on the ground floor, they will likely get their hands dirty in a lot of different aspects of whatever business they're working for. It's hard to put a price on that!

I can go on and talk about how summer jobs help build confidence and strengthen time management skills (both also very important!), but I want to wrap it up and mention what may be the single most important aspect of the summer job: networking. Jobs are a fantastic way for kids to put themselves out there and interact with their community in a way school and many extracurriculars can't offer.

Now, I can't get your kid a job, but if you have a teenager and have summer jobs on the mind, maybe this will give you both a starting point. If that's the case, I wish them happy job hunting this year or in the future!



-Greg Herrman

ARE THE CARTOONS YOUR KIDS WATCH ACTUALLY MADE FOR KIDS?

With the many streaming platforms out there, kids have access to a more diverse array of content than ever before. That being said, parents need to be extra vigilant about which shows and videos are captivating their children's attention, particularly when it comes to cartoons.

Cartoons on their own aren't bad for kids. In fact, enjoying them in moderation can have myriad benefits for a child's development. They can bring laughter and relieve stress, engage a child's imagination, help them develop their language skills, and teach them about topics ranging from mathematics to social skills. The best cartoons can be bright, colorful, funny stories that help children learn and grow.

That said, though, not all cartoons are for kids, nor do they teach good lessons. Many cartoon characters encourage violence and speaking rudely to teachers and other

authority figures. Additionally, with adult animation becoming more popular in recent years, many of the cartoons available on TV, streaming services, and YouTube are explicitly not for children. So, how can parents make sure the cartoons their kids are watching are safe, wholesome, and educational?

In recent years, as YouTube has continued to amass countless hours of video content — much of it geared toward children — they've developed YouTube Kids, their streaming site for children under the age of 13. This site isn't airtight, however, and disturbing content can sometimes slip through the cracks.

Parents might also find value in sticking to certain channels or streaming services, such as PBS Kids, Nick Jr., or Disney+. There are also organizations like the Parents and Television Media Council, whose website, ParentsTV.org, can help parents determine which cartoons are okay for their kids to watch.

Ultimately, the best way to ensure cartoons are safe is to watch with your kids. After all, this turns a solitary activity into one where parents can learn, laugh, and bond with their children.



TESTIMONIALS

DON'T JUST TAKE OUR
WORD FOR IT



"I had a car accident, and I called Herrman & Herrman in McAllen. Jonathan Garza was the attorney assigned to my case. Jonathan was there for me since day one. I was in therapy the same day I called him to take my case. I was treated like family. I will definitely recommend Herrman & Herrman to friends and family. Thank you, Jonathan!"

—Candido M.

"I have had several friends and family use them, and they have always had great outcomes for personal injury cases. Veronica Mayes is a great paralegal and does an amazing job, and she keeps you updated on the litigation procedures. Keep up the good work!"

—Sandra G.

"Herrman & Herrman handled my car accident case and did a great job. Kathleen was professional and let me know what was going on with my case till the end. Very happy!"

—Idalia S.

FUN FACTS ABOUT THE FOURTH OF JULY

What do your kids know about the Fourth of July? Do they know it's a day when you have a barbecue, spend time with friends and neighbors, and watch a fireworks show? These hallmarks of the holiday certainly do make it fun and memorable, but they don't really exemplify why we celebrate the Fourth of July, the anniversary of when the United States declared its independence from Britain.

So, along with the sparklers and hot dogs, here are a few fun facts about Independence Day you can share with your kids to help them understand the significance of the holiday.

The Fourth of July marks our country's independence because it's when the Continental Congress ratified the Declaration of Independence. This fact might seem like a no-brainer, but it contextualizes the holiday for kids. It's a great jumping-off point to talk about why the United States wanted to be its own country, what the Continental Congress was, what the Declaration of Independence said, and what it means to "ratify" something.

Two future presidents signed the Declaration of Independence: John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. They both died exactly 50 years later, on July 4, 1826. This fact is an interesting coincidence sure to fascinate both kids and adults. It's also a great way to introduce kids to some of the Founding Fathers and share how they helped shape the United States today.

In 1776, the year the United States was founded, only 2.5 million people lived here. Today, the U.S. population is 331 million. Lots of people have been born in the United States since it was founded, and millions more came here from other places, hoping to find a better life. Many succeeded, too. Many people want to call this country home!

On the Fourth of July, around 155 million hot dogs are eaten in the United States. Okay, so this fact might not have anything to do with American history, but it's still pretty funny! If anything, the fact that we have so many hot dogs to eat on that day is evidence of the prosperity so many people enjoy in the United States of America.



EASY ZUCCHINI ENCHILADAS

INGREDIENTS

- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tsp cumin
- 2 tsp chili powder
- Salt, to taste
- 3 cups rotisserie chicken, shredded
- 1 1/3 cups red enchilada sauce, divided
- 4 large zucchini, sliced very thin lengthwise and dried
- 2 cups shredded cheese
- Sour cream and cilantro, for garnish

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F. In a large skillet, heat oil over medium heat. Add onion and cook, stirring for 5 minutes.
2. Add garlic, cumin, chili powder, and salt. Cook for 1 minute, then add chicken and 1 cup enchilada sauce. Stir to combine.
3. On a cutting board, lay out three slices of zucchini side by side. Top each with a scoop of chicken mixture, then roll into a tube. Repeat with remaining zucchini slices.
4. Add the rolls to a baking dish.
5. Top the rolls with the remaining enchilada sauce and cheese. Bake for 20 minutes. Top with garnishes!

Inspired by Delish.com

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THEY EAT *WHAT* ON PIZZA?!

5 WACKY PIZZA TRENDS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Here in the U.S., pineapple is considered a wild and controversial pizza topping. Even celebrities take a stand. Justin Bieber is pro-pineapple, but Jimmy Kimmel is against it. According to a 2019 YouGov Omnibus study, only anchovies and eggplant are more hated. But in other parts of the world, the tangy yellow fruit is far from the strangest topping you'll see!

Here are five wacky pizza trends from around the globe that will either make you hungry or inspire you to sprint the other way. You may want to order a comforting cheese pie from your favorite local pizzeria before reading this, just in case.

1. **Banana-Curry Pizza (Sweden)** — The Swedes first accessed bananas in 1944, and since then, they've put them on everything, including pizza which they top with tomato sauce, smoked cheese, banana slices, and curry powder.
2. **Ketchup and Corn Pizza (Brazil)** — According to several sources, Brazilians swap pizza sauce for ketchup or tomato slices and top their pies with strange combinations of local ingredients like corn, beets, hearts of palm, and potato sticks.
3. **Haggis Pizza (Scotland)** — Pizza may be the only semi-enjoyable way to eat haggis: a mix of sheep or calf offal, oatmeal, suet, and



seasonings that are boiled in an animal's stomach. Last year, Papa John's got in on the action when it released a limited-edition haggis pizza in honor of a Scottish poet, Robert Burns.

4. **Mockba Pizza (Russia)** — This local pie comes topped with four kinds of fish (sardines, tuna, mackerel, and salmon), onions, herbs, and occasionally fish eggs. Most troubling of all, it's served cold!
5. **Chickpea Pancake Pizza (Argentina)** — In Buenos Aires, locals top their super-cheesy pizza slices with fainá — chickpea pancakes cooked separately from the pies and balanced on top of each slice.

Keep these pizzas in mind when planning your next international vacation! They might be tastier than they sound, and if not, they'll still make great Instagram fodder. As actor Cole Sprouse once tweeted, "You're losing followers because you're not relatable enough. Try mentioning that you eat pizza. If that doesn't work, play the ukulele."