Why Start Something?

Read about three neighbors who started businesses.

4.SS.3.7 "Define entrepreneurship and identify reasons for starting a business."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that defines entrepreneurship, then circle the reasons Tessa, Malik, and Rosa started their businesses.

Three Neighborhood Businesses

1. On Saturday, Tessa saw three bikes with flat tires outside her apartment building. The nearest repair shop was far away. She bought a small patch kit and offered to fix tires for a fee. Tessa became an entrepreneur, a person who starts and runs a business. Entrepreneurship means starting and running a business to offer goods or services. Tessa started hers because neighbors needed nearby bike repairs.

2. Across town, Malik liked growing herbs on his windowsill. He had learned how to care for them from his grandfather. Malik started selling small herb plants at a weekend market. He wanted to use a skill he enjoyed and earn money for a new soccer ball. Some customers bought the plants to use in cooking. Malik had to pay for pots and soil before he could sell anything.

3. Meanwhile, Rosa noticed that busy families on her street had little time to wash their cars. She offered a weekend car-washing service and charged for each car. Rosa hoped to save money for summer camp while making a chore easier for her neighbors. Not every idea becomes a business. An entrepreneur must decide what to offer, set a price, and find people willing to pay.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does entrepreneurship mean, and what does a business offer?

2. Why did Tessa start her bike repair business?

3. What were two reasons Malik started selling herb plants?

4. What were two reasons Rosa started washing cars?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine a business you could start that is different from the three in the passage. In three sentences, tell what good or service you would offer and give two reasons you would start it.

ANSWER KEY

Why Start Something?

GRADE 4 · 4.SS.3.7

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that defines entrepreneurship, then circle the reasons Tessa, Malik, and Rosa started their businesses. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does entrepreneurship mean, and what does a business offer?	**Entrepreneurship means starting and running a business to offer goods or services.**
2	Why did Tessa start her bike repair business?	**Her neighbors needed bike repairs, and the nearest repair shop was far away.**
3	What were two reasons Malik started selling herb plants?	**He wanted to use a skill he enjoyed and earn money for a new soccer ball.**
4	What were two reasons Rosa started washing cars?	**She wanted to make a chore easier for busy neighbors and save money for summer camp.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I would start a pet-sitting business that feeds cats while their owners travel. Families in my building need someone to care for their cats when they are away. I would also start it because I enjoy spending time with animals.

Accept accurate paraphrases of the definition and reasons stated in the passage. For Your Turn, look for a new business idea, what it offers, and two clear reasons for starting it.