

# Book Club Resources The Lemonade War (2007) by Jacqueline Davies

## Week One Bonus Activity: When Life Gives You Lemons...Make a Business!

In *The Lemonade War*, Evan and Jessie create quite a bit of excitement with their lemonade stands, (all of which you'll learn more about!) As you read more about their lemonade stand business think about this: What kind of business would *you* create?

An entrepreneur is someone who begins a new type of business and takes on most of the risk. They take on most of the rewards as well! Spend some time thinking about what type of business (or entrepreneurship) you'd be interested in starting. Feel free to get creative and imagine any type of business you would want to own. Once you've come up with your idea, make a sign for it! You could draw what your storefront would look like, and come up with a tagline or a jingle!

### **Week One Discussion Questions**

- 1. Evan is really mad at Jessie. Do you think he handled his anger well? How do you handle it when you get angry with someone? What is the right way to handle being angry at someone?
- 2. "But it was a puzzle about feelings, and Jessie knew that feelings were her weakest subject." (p. 11) What do you think Jessie means by this? Do you think people's feelings are a hard thing to understand? Or does understanding people's feelings come naturally to you?
- 3. Evan seems to lose money as soon as he gets it. Do you ever have issues keeping your money? What are some things you do with your money when you get it? Do you save it? Spend it? Give it away?
- 4. There is a misunderstanding between the way Jessie acts and how Evan reacts. Have you ever had a misunderstanding like this before? What are the best ways to avoid, or to fix these miscommunications?
- 5. Define 'competition' in your own words. Discuss a time that you were in a competition. What are the pros of a good competition? The cons? Is this competition between Evan and Jessie something good, or something bad?



## Week Two Bonus Activity: Time to Define

Each chapter of *The Lemonade War* starts by defining the title of the chapter, giving a clue about the chapter's contents. Plus, we get to start each chapter by learning something new!

Think of yourself as a chapter. What is one word that would be your title, that would define you? See if you can come up with a definition for this word that is specific to you. Then, look that word up in the dictionary. Are the two definitions similar?

Then, start a conversation with some fellow students introducing your word and defining it. Some of you may have had multiple chapters in your life already, and multiple words that define them. See how many you can each share.

Here's an example: At **Read to Them**, we identify with the word "collaboration": "the action of working with someone to produce or create something." We hope there's *collaboration* between you and your friends to create an awesome conversation!

### **Week Two Discussion Questions**

- 1. The girls in Jessie's class bully her and laugh at her, exchanging looks that Jessie doesn't understand. Have you ever experienced a bully or group of bullies treating you like this? Have you ever experienced it being done to someone else? How did you deal with it? Would you deal differently with it if it happened again?
- 2. Jessie decides to add snacks and music to "add value" to the lemonade stand that she and Megan are operating. If you could add something to their lemonade stand, what would you add? Be creative and explain why your choice would help them with their sales.
- 3. "That was a *fourth-grade* problem." (p. 91) Evan solves his money math problem all by himself and he feels very proud! Can you remember a time when you solved a problem, or completed an assignment, and felt the same way? What does that sense of pride mean to you?
- 4. Jessie's mom calls her persistent. What does persistent mean? Is being persistent a good thing or a bad thing? Does it depend on the situation? Describe a situation where being persistent is a good thing, and one where it is not a good thing.
- 5. What is a franchise? What does it mean to go global? With these two definitions at hand, come up with an idea for a franchise. What product would you offer and why? How would you try to expand it, maybe even globally?



Week Three Bonus Activity: 10 Tips for

At the back of *The Lemonade War*, there is a list called *10 Tips for Turning Lemons Into Loot*. Jessie and Evan made this list of suggestions to help someone run a successful lemonade stand. (You may want to keep those in your back pocket for when you start your next lemonade stand!)

Take a moment to think about something you know a lot about, something for which you could create a 10 Tips list. Here at **Read to Them**, we could offer 10 Tips for Turning Reading Time into the Best Time of the Day.

What about you? Are you a pro at scoring a goal? Making a hot fudge sundae? Planning out the perfect pool party? Finishing a math test on time? Whatever topic you choose, write down your *10 Tips*, and then share them with others. Maybe you'll learn something new!

#### **Week Three Discussion Questions**

- 1. Do you know anybody like Grumpminster Fink? Someone who is mean and cranky, but deep down just wants people to love them? What is the best way to deal with someone who acts like a Grumpminster Fink?
- 2. What does 'malicious mischief' mean? Discuss what you think of Jessie's malicious mischief in this chapter. Considering how he has treated her, can you understand her actions? Or are the unforgivable?
- 3. "He couldn't believe how quickly his victory had turned to defeat." (p. 146) Evan loses all his money and hard work because of the bugs and dirt in his cooler. He feels awful. Have you ever had a setback like this after lots of effort? What did it feel like? What are some ways to recover from a setback like this?
- 4. What does it mean to feel regret for your actions? Have you ever felt regret for something you did before? Discuss that experience. What are some things you did that made you feel better after?
- 5. "War. Peace." (p. 172) Evan and Jessie make up, and there is peace in the Treski house again. Have you ever had to make up with a friend or family member? Is it a hard thing to do? Any tips to share?

BONUS: What do you think about the entire Lemonade War that Evan and Jessie had? Was it worth it? What do you think Evan and Jessie each learned about the experience? What type of advice would you give them so this doesn't happen again?