

How I Spent My SUMMER

Summer can rush by in a blur of sunscreen, video games, and the community pool. But kids are earning money and building skills to move ahead in life, get into college, or start a booming business. These three kids share their summer stories.



COURTESY DIEGO BLANCO

Diego Blanco, 15 Altadena, California

If the crowds at Jurassic World are any indication, kids love dinosaurs. Diego Blanco turned his passion for them into a profitable business. He spent his summer appearing as a dinosaur expert at children's parties. "Set goals as to how much you want to make, and know how you plan to manage the money," says Diego. He met with a financial adviser to make his own plan.



OURTESY REALI CHELL

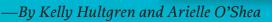
Beau Shell, 11 Athens, Georgia

For his eighth birthday, Beau Shell asked for an ice-cream cart to house the \$325 freezer his parents had purchased for him. Beau spent \$155 on ice cream, and made \$308 selling it

at his first event. Now 11, he just finished his fourth summer as the Lil' Ice Cream Dude. In the past year, Beau has earned almost \$20,000. "A business will make a profit if you work hard enough," says Beau. He regularly donates some of his earnings to his community. "I want to help people who helped me," he says.

Josephine Lo, 17 Shepherdstown, West Virginia

Josephine Lo learned a lot from a few hours of work at her dad's tech company. "It challenged my mind and showed me how important it is to have a job you're interested in," she says. So she signed up for Girls Who Code, a summer camp that teaches skills for careers in the tech industry. The U.S. Department of Labor estimates there will be 1.4 million tech-job openings by 2020, the year Josephine will graduate from college. And it's well-paid work—a computer scientist earns an average of \$90,000 a year.



What I Learned During My Summer Vacation: Advice from Beau, Diego, and Josephine

- 1. Explore your passions. If you find something you enjoy, it won't feel like work.
- 2. Give back. Beau said it best: Helping others makes you feel good.
- **3.** Get help from friends and family.
- **4.** Save your earnings. Spend a little, but save for big goals, like college.
- 5. Invest in your future.
 Josephine didn't earn
 money this summer,
 but she learned
 valuable skills that will
 pay back over the
 vears.

POWER WORDS

financial adviser: a professional who helps people manage their money **profitable:** money-making

FAMILY CHALLENGE

It's never too soon to start planning!

Discuss with your family what you might like to do next summer. How do you think it will have a positive impact on your future?

September 2015 COVER: COURTESY BEAU SHELL; SCOTT CUNNINGHAM—GETTY IMAGES (STADIUM)

How to Read a Paycheck

Hours The number of hours you worked within the pay period

Pay period

The time period for which you are being paid

YTD Stands for year to date, and shows the total amount you've earned this year

> **Deductions** Money subtracted from your pay for state and

00.00

00.00

25.92

00.00

00.00

\$418.00

Check Number: XXXXXX Pay Date: 06/19/15

00.00

00.00

51.84

00.00

00.00

\$836.00

federal taxes (see box below) and contributions to government programs that give financial support to

those in need

Net pay

receive

The amount of money you actually

Gross pay

The total amount you earned during the pay period, determined by the number of hours you worked multiplied by the amount you are paid per hour

Rate The amount you are paid per hour

123 - John R. Doe Pay Period 6/02/15 to 06/16/15 Required Deductions Earnings Federal Income Tax FICA - Medicare Hours This Period 450 00 **YTD** 900 00 WI State INcome Tax FICA - Social Security Gross Pay 450.00 900.00 Other Deductions Health Insurance Parking NET PAY

Your Employer 1234 Any Street Milwaukee, WI ZIPCODE

Four hundred eighteen dollars and 00 cents*****

To the order of John R. Doe 555 Some Street Milwaukee, WI ZIPCODE

ASK JEAN

Jean Chatzky is a money expert.

How does a bank make money?

-Brooks Harrington, 8, Norwalk, Connecticut

A lemonade stand makes money when you sell lemonade for more money than it costs to make it. The difference between the cost to buy or make the lemonade and the price you sell it for is the profit. A bank does the same thing, but its product is money. When you put your money in a bank, the bank pays you interest on your deposits. Then the bank loans your money to someone else, charging a higher rate of interest than it is paying you. The difference between the cost of bringing the money in and the price at which the bank loans it out is its profit. A bank uses that profit along with fees it charges customers to operate and pay its employees.

Do you have a question? Write to Jean at tfkasks4you@timeforkids.com.

Meet Uncle Sam

Many people associate Uncle Sam with income taxes. Paychecks show subtractions for state and federal taxes. It may seem unfair that money you earned has been taken away. But

taxes pay for services you use every day, including public schools and teachers, the local park, paved streets, and your town's public pool. The amount you pay in taxes depends on how much you earned. The more you earn, the more you pay. If you earn more than \$10,150 this year, you have to file a federal tax return. But even if you don't make that much, you may want to file because you may get some or all of the money you paid back as a tax refund. Woo-hoo!