



NAMONG METHODIST JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, GHANA

MAKING TABLE CLOTH

Written by



CREATED AS PART OF THE SCHOOL ENTERPRISE CHALLENGE AWARDS PROGRAMME – SILVER LEVEL

| Section A: Our Business Details | | | |
|--|--------------------|----------|-----------|
| Business Name | MY LIFE ENTERPRISE | | |
| Business Activity | CROCHETING | | |
| No. of students involved in business idea activities (including writing this Business Idea) | Boys: 4 | Girls: 6 | Total: 10 |
| Section B: Our School | | | |
| <p>1. To help you understand our school business better, we will briefly describe our school (e.g. age of the students; location; environment).</p> <p>Namong Methodist Junior High School is a comprehensive 3-year public junior high school with an enrolment of about 150 pupils within the ages of 12-16. The school is in Namong, a suburb of Offinso in the Ashanti Region of Ghana. Namong is a rural setting made up of only farmers.</p> | | | |
| Section C: Our School Business Experience | | | |
| <p>2. Here is a brief description of the school business we ran before/are currently running, including the products/services we sold/are selling.</p> <p>Last year, we embarked on designing beads on slippers but due to the workload of our school year system, we couldn't complete our project which rendered us unable to submit the final report. Owing to that, we have switched business this year to crocheting which we would specifically rely on tablecloth.</p> <p>Crochet is a needlework technique performed using a crochet hook plus fiber or other similar material</p> | | | |

Section D: Our Resources

3. Considering our school's physical resources, skills and location, these are the resources available at our school we can use to develop our business:

Crocheting is a whole topic in our school curriculum and almost all the members of My Life Enterprise has prior knowledge in the field and wouldn't require much training to kick our enterprise started. Besides, it would be easier to acquire, linen, thread, nails and other tools to start since the Home Economic Department has enough and could easily get some for My Life Enterprise.

Section E: Brainstorming Business Ideas

4. a) These are the five business ideas we thought of when brainstorming a new idea or a way of diversifying or growing the existing one:

- i. farming vegetables
- ii. weaving basket
- iii. Making tablecloth
- iv. making biscuit
- v. making liquid soap

b) The business idea we chose for our Silver Award is:

And these are 3 reasons why we chose this idea:

- i. We considered crocheting above the others due to the time frame to complete our final report and how we can combine it with academic work though others could be more profitable.
- ii. It wouldn't require much training since almost everybody of My Life Enterprise has tasted a bit of it through our Home Economic lessons.
- iii. It doesn't demand much capital, besides we can easily get some of the materials from the Home Economic Department.

5. Our final Business Idea will be sustainable and have a positive impact on the environment and our community because:

With our feasibility studies in the community, we realized that My life Enterprise would run a monopoly market since there isn't any firm which deals with crochet products. After we have evaluated our competitors we also learned about folks who are already in the business but we realized there isn't any in our community And since it is a topic on its own in our curriculum, we would get students each year group to embark on our business. We have plans in advance to initial a symposium to invite the nearby schools to assist them to develop interest in self-empowerment rather than having to commute to big cities in search for jobs after school. Not only would this reduce traffic congestion, it will also reduce the devastating unemployment situation in Ghana.

Section F: Financing our growth and development

- 6. Here is a description of how we are planning to finance our business, including how we are going to raise the money needed for our school business.**

Each term the government of Ghana allocates some funds for the management of basic schools in the country. Because of that, the headmistress of the school has agreed to assist My Life Enterprise with (\$ 100) in buying some of the materials. Besides that, with the consent of our parents every member of My Life Enterprise has agreed to contribute \$5.00 each towards the progress of our business. The H.O.D of the home economics department has also shown interest with our enterprise and pledged to be ready to assist us both with materials and coaching.

Section G: Appendix

Please find in this space our completed Resource Assessment template, our Feasibility Study template and 3 photos (when possible) that clearly show our involvement as students in business idea activities.



RESOURCE ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

| Does your school have any natural resources? | YES | NO | If YES, please give details |
|---|------------|-----------|---|
| Water | | no | |
| Land or farmland | | no | |
| Anything else e.g. beach, palm-trees, orchard | | no | |
| Does your school have any physical resources? | Yes | No | If YES, please give details |
| Rubbish that can be recycled | | no | |
| Machinery or equipment e.g. a paper recycling machine | | no | |
| Buildings e.g. school hall | | no | |
| Electricity or a generator | yes | | There is light in our school which we use for our computers |
| Internet | | no | |
| Computers | yes | | We have a computer laboratory |
| Printer | yes | | But not in the right order for now |
| Anything else e.g. sewing machine, motorbike | yes | | There is a sewing machine |
| Is the location of your school.... | Yes | No | If YES, please give details |
| Near a big town or city | yes | | Closer to the district capital |
| Near a Tourist Attraction e.g. Safari Park | | no | |
| Near industry e.g. a textile mill | | no | |
| In an area with fertile land | yes | | Our area is a farming community |
| Anything else e.g. near a market | yes | | Kokote market |
| Are there students in your team with.....? | Yes | No | If YES, please give details |
| Arts, Crafts or Tailoring Skills | yes | | Through their basic design and technology lessons |
| Computer, Internet or Media skills | yes | | Almost everyone has computer skills |
| Farming or Cooking skills | yes | | We acquired cooking skills through our home economics lessons |
| Maths and accounting skills | yes | | But not in advance |
| Sports skills | yes | | Some of us can play football, volley and others |
| Music or Dance skills | yes | | We all love dancing |
| Language or Teaching skills | | no | |
| Anything else | | no | |
| Are there students in your team who know how to....? | Yes | No | If YES, please give details |
| Undertake Market Research | yes | | Three of us were part of last year enterprise market team |

| | | |
|---|------------|---|
| Write a Business Plan | yes | but we would need our teachers assistance |
| Calculate our Net and Gross Profit | yes | we had the ideas from last year's team |
| Write a Financial Plan | Yes | but we would need the assistance of our teacher |
| Are there students in your team who feel they are....? | Yes | No |
| Good at meeting new people (networking) | yes | Yes but we would need our teachers assistance If YES, please give details |
| Good at listening to other people (teamwork) | yes | Yes, about four of us,(Serwaa, Priscilla, Charity and Falila) |
| Good at finding solutions to problems (resilience) | | We have about five students who keep focus of whatever they are doing and accept ideas and feelings other team members |
| An organized person who always finishes their school work (time management) | yes | Pual, Serwaa and Ernestina are competent, confident, secured in character and always connected to people around them |
| Good at talking to new people (communication) | yes | Our lead student (Paul) sense of maturity, adaptability, time management and general academic preparedness makes him stand tall among his colleague students in My Life Enterprise and the school in general |
| Good at understanding other peoples' problems (empathy) | yes | The leaders of My Life Enterprise probe into issues to guarantee that they have understood correctly and to assure the speaker that this so. |
| | | Almost every member of this My Life Enterprise empathize with others |

TEMPLATE A: PRODUCT FEASIBILITY STUDY

| If you are going to sell a <u>product</u> : | YES | NO | If NO, how can you overcome it? |
|---|-----|----|---------------------------------|
| 1. Would most consumers consider the product attractive or useful? | yes | | |
| 2. Is the product easy to store and transport? | yes | | |
| 3. Does the product have a long lifespan (i.e. it won't go off, wear out or go out of fashion)? | yes | | |
| 4. Is the product safe for customers to use or consume? | yes | | |
| 5. Is the product easy to make? | yes | | |

| | | | |
|---|-----|--|--|
| 6. Do you have access to the necessary materials? | yes | | |
| 7. Will the product be in demand all year round? | yes | | |
| 8. Is the product easily packaged and transportable? | yes | | |
| 9. Will you be able to sell this product at a price that will cover the costs of making it and still generate a profit? | yes | | |
| 10. Does this product have a low start-up cost? | yes | | |
| 11. Does making/selling the product have educational value for the students? | yes | | |
| 12. Overall - does this seem like a good business idea? | yes | | |

CONGRATULATIONS on coming up with a Business Idea! Submit NOW!

Remember to submit your completed business idea to the School Enterprise Challenge Awards Programme by **logging in** to your account at: www.schoolenterprisechallenge.org/login