SCHOOL AGE SEVEN ESSENTIAL LIFE SKILLS
Skill Building Book Tips

You can read *Lemonade in Winter* in a way that highlights Self-Directed, Engaged Learning, a Life Skill that promotes Executive Functions. It is through learning that we can realize our potential. As the world changes, so can we, for as long as we live—as long as we learn.

Principles of Self-Directed, Engaged Learning

- Establish a trustworthy relationship with your child.
- Help children set and work toward their own goals.
- Involve children socially, emotionally and intellectually.
- Elaborate and extend children’s learning.
- Help children practice, synthesize and generalize.
- Help children become increasingly accountable.
- Create a community of learners.

**TIP:**

Pauline and her little brother John-John have a goal to have a lemon-limeade stand, even though it’s winter. Nothing stops them from working toward their goal—including their parents’ warnings that nobody will want cold drinks in the middle of winter.

Ask your child how important it is to have goals, even goals that other people say are undo-able. Have them think about their other experiences as well as the story in this book.

**SKILL:**

One of the principles of promoting Self-Directed, Engaged Learning is helping children set and then work toward goals. Executive Function skills are driven by goals.

**TIP:**

When the children don’t sell much, they come up with many new marketing ideas. Ask your child what else might Pauline and John-John have done to sell their lemon-limeade.

**SKILL:**

Another principle of promoting Self-Directed, Engaged Learning is to elaborate and extend what children do.

**TIP:**

Ask your child:

*For more ways to help your child learn and develop, visit mindinthemaking.org and vroom.org*
• “What did Pauline and John-John learn about money from this experience?”

Include how much they spent and how much they earned.

**SKILL:**

Still another principle of promoting Self-Directed, Engaged Learning is helping children **practice, synthesize and generalize.**

**TIP:**

You can share a story or ask your child to share a story about a time he or she had fun and worked well with someone else.

**SKILL:**

The brother and sister created their own **learning community by working together and learning from each other.**

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**Lemonade in Winter**

*By Emily Jenkins*

Two siblings are determined to set up a lemonade stand ... in the middle of winter. Their determination and willingness to do the math and the leg-work involved (and to brave the elements!) pays off as they realize their lemonade stand dream.

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