



Creative Childcare Ideas For Moms With A Biz

It's hard to be a working mom, whether you are working outside the home or working in your home. As a business owner – and a mom – you have A LOT on your plate! Here are some creative childcare ideas to help you blend your work life with your family life!

- * It's OK to ask for help. You are only one person and you can't possibly divide yourself up into enough pieces to handle every task that is vying for your attention. Don't feel guilty about asking for help. You are not a super hero. If you have a partner, get them involved. If you're a single mom, ask friends and family to help you. By freeing up a portion of your tasks, you'll have more time for your business, and you'll feel less stress.
- * Start outsourcing some of your business tasks. You don't have to handle every email that crosses your inbox and you don't have to complete every website update or add every item to your shopping cart yourself. There are many qualified virtual assistants, writers, graphic designers, etc out there who can help take some of those items off your "to-do list."
- * Want to start outsourcing, but have a limited budget? Get an intern. If you sell a physical product, call your local high school or college and ask if any students are looking for an intern position. If your business is done online, you can still find an intern by advertising your position. Someone out there wants to know what you know. You'll receive help for your business, and instead of paying someone a wage, you'll be teaching them skills they can take with them forever.

* Another take on the intern idea is to have a middle school student or younger high school student come over and play with your kids for a few hours while you get some work done. You will still be in the house, so you'll be there if your children need you. (A younger teenager will charge much less to babysit than an older teen with more experience would charge.)

* Get your children involved. School age children will love the fact that they get to help you do something "important" and will receive a big self esteem boost in the process.

* If your kids are a bit too young to help you, find something they can work on that is similar to what you are doing. For instance, as you receive junk mail, keep it in a shoe box and when you sit down to do some paper work, give your younger children the junk mail to write on. They'll think they're doing their paper work, too.

* Buy your children a few "special" toys and keep them in a box out of reach. When it's time for mom to work, the box can come down and the children can play with those toys. When mom is finished with her work, the toys go back in the box out of reach. Since it's a special treat to play with the toys, the kids won't be as likely to get bored with them and will stay occupied while you work.

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