



HELP YOUR CHILD DREAM BIG, THINK LIKE AN ENTREPRENEUR, AND HAVE FUN!

The Greater Arlington Chamber of Commerce and Arlington ISD are excited to celebrate the 21st Annual What's Your Big Idea? Entrepreneurship Contest!

This contest gives 3rd–8th graders the chance to explore creative thinking, problem-solving, and entrepreneurship by sharing their big ideas through an essay or art entry.

It's also a great way for parents to reinforce what's being taught in the classroom by sparking fun conversations at home. Talk with your kids about what they love, the challenges they notice in everyday life, and their ideas for making the world better and watch their creativity grow!

TIMELINE

MON, SEPT 21

Campus Rollout

WED, NOV 4

Deadline for Entries

WEEK OF DEC 14

Finalists Notification
& Recognition

WED, JAN 20

Awards Ceremony
UTA's College Park

STEP BY STEP WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

STEP 1: THINK LIKE AN ENTREPRENEUR

Improve something you love or invent something brand new.

STEP 2: EXPLORE GRADE-SPECIFIC PROMPTS TOGETHER

Choose one of this year's grade-appropriate prompts with your child

Parent Tip: Ask open-ended questions like:

- What do you love doing and wish you could get even better at?
- What annoys you about daily life that you'd want to fix?
- If you could create anything (gadget, app, or game) what would it be?

STEP 3: USE THE PROBLEM-SOLVING MODEL

Guide your child through the 4-step problem-solving process to shape their idea:

1. **Understand the Problem:** What needs to be improved or invented?
2. **Form a Plan:** Brainstorm and choose the best solution
3. **Determine a Solution:** Decide what they'll write or draw about.
4. **Justify & Evaluate:** "Does this make sense? Would it really work?"

STEP 4: CREATE THE ENTRY

Your child can enter one or both categories but all entries require the "student" entry form stapled or uploaded as page 1 of their submission.

- **Essay:** Must be typed or neatly handwritten (400 words or fewer) on 8.5x11 paper
- **Art/Poster:** Must be original artwork (no 3D designs, no poster boards)

HOW TO SUBMIT

Two Ways to Enter:

(1) Submit online at arlingtontx.com/bigidea.

(2) Submit your typed or neatly handwritten essay or poster on a separate sheet.

MUST HAVES

COMPLETED ENTRY FORM
WITH PARENT SIGNATURE
AS PAGE 1 (SEE CONTEST
RULES)

ONLY 8.5x11 SIZE PAPER

NO MORE THAN 400 WORDS

ANY OTHER FORMAT WILL
BE DISQUALIFIED.



Submit Online and View the
Comprehensive Contest Guide at
arlingtontx.com/bigidea



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