

# The Lemonade War

Recommended for Grades 2-4

---

## **Book Summary: The Lemonade War**

Evan and his younger sister, Jessie, have always had success at running lemonade stands. When Evan finds out his second grader sister is joining his fourth grade class in the fall, he becomes upset and doesn't want to spend time with her. They start running their own lemonade stands and start a war – whoever raises the most money wins. Each day, the two run a different stand and experiment with methods of raising lemonade sales.

## **[SPOILER]**

Both Evan and Jessie learn tips for running a successful business through trial and error. Jessie quickly proves to be the more successful entrepreneur with her math skills. Throughout the war, Jessie wants to return to her old partnership with Evan but he continually resists her efforts at friendship.

Desperate to win their bet, the two began sabotaging each other's hard work. Jessie ruins Evan's batch of lemonade and Evan steals Jessie's money. When the envelope with Jessie's money is stolen from him, Evan is forced to admit it to his sister and about why he doesn't want to share a class with her in the fall. The two work out their differences and, using their lemonade stand experiences, create a prize-winning contest display which earns them first place.

## **Author Biography: Jacqueline Davies**

Jacqueline Davies was born July 25, 1962 in Cleveland, Ohio. Her first book was written in elementary school about a circle that wanted legs and, although it was never published, she continues to use it as an example in her school visits that anyone can write a good book. Her first children's book, *Where the Ground Meets the Sky*, was published in 2002 and received a number of awards. *The Lemonade War*, which may be her most recognizable book, was inspired by watching her sons argue over their own lemonade stand. It has been translated into several different languages. She lives in Needham, Massachusetts with her husband and three children.



Oswego Campus  
32 W Jefferson Street  
Oswego, IL 60543  
[www.oswego.lib.il.us](http://www.oswego.lib.il.us)

Montgomery Campus  
1111 Reading Drive  
Montgomery, IL 60538  
(630) 978-1272

# The Lemonade War

Recommended for Grades 2-4

---

## Discussion Questions: The Lemonade War

1. Each chapter begins with the definition of a word. How does this enhance the story? Do the definitions give away what happens in each chapter? Why or why not?
2. Jessie wonders why Evan is upset with her until she remembers the letter that said they'll be in the same class in the fall. Why would Evan be upset about sharing a class with his younger sister? How would you feel if you were Evan?
3. Evan starts a partnership with Scott, a selfish kid he doesn't really like just so he doesn't have to have the lemonade stand with Jessie. How was his lemonade stand less successful? What should Evan have done differently?
4. How did Evan misinterpret Jessie's signal for him to join him at her lemonade stand? Have you or your friends ever misinterpreted signals? What happened?
5. Jessie is good at understanding concrete things like math, but struggles to understand feelings. Why are feelings hard for her to understand? How could she learn to figure them out?
6. Jessie thinks she had a brilliant idea by offering snacks and music, but she finds out that Evan reduced the price of his lemonade. Which lemonade stand was more successful that day? Why? What could each of the lemonade stands have done differently?
7. Compare Evan's lemonade stand on the town green to Jessie's lemonade stand that offered face painting, nail painting and hair braiding. How was each stand successful? What improvements could be made on both stands?
8. The next day, Jessie enlists the help of thirteen other girls who each run a lemonade stand. How was this a good business idea? Are there any downfalls to this kind of business? If so, what are they?
9. Jessie is worried about losing the war so she ruins Evan's batch of lemonade with bugs. Why did she think this was a good idea? What could she have done instead of ruining her brother's lemonade?
10. Evan and Jessie agree that the war was a bad idea. Did anything good come out of their war? How will things be different for them now? Whose side did you take during the war? Why?



Oswego Campus  
32 W Jefferson Street  
Oswego, IL 60543  
[www.oswego.lib.il.us](http://www.oswego.lib.il.us)

Montgomery Campus  
1111 Reading Drive  
Montgomery, IL 60538  
(630) 978-1272