

LEARNING EXPERIENCE BRIEF

JA *Ourselves*®

- ▶ Financial Literacy
- ▶ Work and Career Readiness
- ▶ Entrepreneurial Mindset



As part of a K-5 learning suite designed to develop durable competencies and intrinsic motivation, *JA Ourselves* introduces kindergartners to the concept of individual choices and how those choices affect both themselves and others. Students explore needs and wants, saving and sharing, and how personal responsibility helps them grow. Students practice character-driven behaviors stemming from resilience, teamwork, and purpose, building confidence, hope, healthy relationships, and future career possibilities.

JA Ourselves uses storytelling and play to connect big ideas to young learners' daily lives. The addition of the Adventures of Jade and Jack Storybook in each session and a new song are designed to increase student engagement and connection with the volunteer. By encouraging students to imagine, share, and reflect, this learning experience helps young learners build confidence in their own decision-making and recognize that even small choices matter.

LEARNING EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Includes five 30-minute sessions with Together At Home pages to connect experiences in the classroom with learning at home
- Flexible model, designed to support multiple learning environments and accommodate educator-led and volunteer-led opportunities
- Experiential, engaging in-class activities that use storytelling and play to connect big ideas to young learners' daily lives
- Flexible facilitation materials including both kit-based and digital assets to accommodate preferences and ease of use
- Elementary-appropriate content in financial literacy, work and career readiness, and entrepreneurial mindset

JA'S TURNKEY SOLUTION FOR EDUCATORS & VOLUNTEERS

Junior Achievement's national network of educators and volunteers helps today's young people connect the dots between what they learn in school and the "business of life"—work readiness, entrepreneurial mindset, and financial literacy.

PERSONALIZED SERVICE

JA works to ensure that local educators and volunteers come together and are supported to engage students by fostering and promoting a collaborative, personalized learning environment.

COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING & SUPPORT

JA staff offer training to ensure facilitators are comfortable delivering JA content. Training topics include working with students and educators, and understanding how to effectively facilitate curriculum and specific hands-on activities. Junior Achievement USA also provides additional online resources for new volunteers, those seeking a refresher, or those wanting additional details.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Volunteers bring their experience into the classroom, helping students feel connected to their community. The time commitment is minimal compared to the significant impact made.

JA Ourselves

LEARNING EXPERIENCE OBJECTIVES

After participating in the learning experience, students will be able to:

- Identify personal preferences and make choices that reflect their needs while showing respect for others.
- Work cooperatively with others in a framework of rules and teamwork.
- Identify school community roles and practice being helpers through collaborative activities and shared responsibilities.
- Recognize the value of saving, reusing, giving, and sharing resources, and building a supportive classroom environment.

CURRICULUM OUTLINE

1 Session One: I Can Make Choices!

Students explore how their likes and dislikes shape their choices. They begin to understand that decision-making is a lifelong skill. Students practice making choices that satisfy their own needs and preferences while also showing respect for others.

2 Session Two: Let's Work Together!

Students learn how individual actions affect the larger group. Through hands-on collaboration, they experience how thoughtful choices like sharing, following rules, and cooperating help everyone work and solve problems together.

3 Session Three: How Do Workers Help Others?

Students match workers with the tools they use, exploring the workers and jobs needed at school. They identify ways that they can serve as helpers in their own classroom.

4 Session Four: Smart Spending Choices!

Students are introduced to choices they can make with money and other resources. They play a simple card game to explore what it means to save and spend money and to reuse resources. Students discuss how these choices affect the world around them and their future.

5 Session Five: How Can We Help?

Students learn that helping, giving, and sharing are important choices for everyone. Through a poster activity, they explore how generosity contributes to our well-being and helps us all to grow.

Together at Home



Jade & Jack Storybook



Pop-Up Bank

