LEARNING EXPERIENCE BRIEF

JA Job Shadow®

▶ Work and Career Readiness

JA Job Shadow is a comprehensive experience that helps participants design an individualized career path. Including digital and print interactive materials as well as self-guided activities, *JA Job Shadow* provides a design-thinking structure for career exploration.

Participants develop a deep understanding of their talents, interests, and values through a career interest assessment. The result is a broad list of career possibilities. Through informational interviews, participants narrow down the list to identify their top potential career opportunities. They interact with professionals in a workplace site visit and during a multihour job shadow experience in a career area of interest. Reflection and analysis move participants toward their target career or back to their list to explore another option.

JA Future by Design® is used in conjunction with this learning experience. During the sessions, participants utilize the app to determine career possibilities that suit them. JA Future by Design can be found at https://futurebydesign.ja.org/career#/home/

This learning experience is part of the JA Work and Career Readiness Pathway and is designed for Grades 9–12 and post-high school. The learning experience can be completed in two parts. The learning experience includes educator-led content, and volunteers are required for the workplace site visit as well as for the job shadow experience.

LEARNING EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Personalized approach to career planning for participants
- Flexible implementation based on local need
- Extensive self-guided learning experiences
- Real-world view of the workplace, including off-site and on-site contact with professionals
- Current career-planning tools to enhance networking skills, interview skills, and online profiles

Junior Achievement™

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SITE VISIT SESSIONS

1 Session One: Finding Your Future

Participants find out what to expect during the learning experience.. They learn about the design-thinking approach called Design for Delight and begin to examine their own career interests and motivations. They also learn about Career Clusters and take a personal career assessment.

2 Session Two: Career Informational Interviews

Participants discuss their top three career choices. They prepare to conduct informational interviews during the upcoming site visit, as well as with professionals in their fields of interest. They create an elevator pitch to describe themselves positively to potential employers.

3 Session Three: Site Visit

Participants visit a local company for a tour, Human Resources presentation, informational interviews, and a series of learning activities.

4 Session Four: Site Visit Reflection

Participants analyze and share their responses to their site visit and informational interview experiences and write a professional thank you note. They begin to develop a resume and online profile. They also research additional informational interview subjects and potential job shadow opportunities.

JOB SHADOW EXPERIENCE SESSIONS

5 Session Five: Interviewing for a Job

Participants explore appropriate and inappropriate job interview behavior. They become familiar with common job interview questions and techniques and practice mock interviews. They adapt their accomplishments into stories to tell on job interviews.

6 Session Six: Job Shadow Prep

Participants conduct research into the company, employees, and industry in which they will be job shadowing. They develop a list of questions to ask and prepare for the logistics of the day.

7 Session Seven: Job Shadow Experience

Independently, participants “shadow” a professional to gain insights about the day-to-day responsibilities and environment in a chosen career.

8 Session Eight: Job Shadow Reflection

Participants will share observations from their independent job shadow experiences and consider their personal career paths in light of those experiences. They write professional thank you notes to their hosts.

Visit https://connect.ja.org/, JA Connect® Resource Guide https://data.ja.org/s/fBUAAA, and https://career.ja.org/ for additional resources.

Job Shadow

SUPPLEMENTAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) LITERACY TOPICS

A suite of AI literacy topics is offered to equip students with cutting-edge knowledge of emerging technologies and responsible use practices, complementing their essential work skills to better prepare them for the workplace.

- AI From the Inside Out: 4 topics
- AI: Fact, Fairness, and Fiction: 3 topics
- AI Prompt Power: 4 topics
- A+ AI to $ Success: 3 topics