LEARNING EXPERIENCE BRIEF

JA Excellence through Ethics®

▶ Work and Career Readiness

JA Excellence through Ethics is a 60- to 90-minute learning experience where participants meet and interact with a local executive or business professional and learn about the importance of ethics in the workplace and in everyday life. Participants will give thoughtful consideration and examination of personal beliefs and their relationship to ethics. They will start to develop a personal awareness of values. Activities and implementation design will vary based on participants' level.

LEARNING EXPERIENCE OBJECTIVES

Objectives will vary based on participants' level. After completing this learning experience, participants will be able to:

- Define *ethics*.
- Evaluate personal values in ethical dilemmas.
- Articulate and identify the steps necessary to make ethical decisions.
- Recognize the importance of identifying and understanding personal values as a means of avoiding unethical choices.

This learning experience is part of the JA Work and Career Readiness Pathway and can be placed in Grades 6–12 and post-high school.

LEARNING EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Materials available for download for participants, volunteers, and educators
- Opportunities for classroom and peer-to-peer discussion
- Includes an optional post-speaker session (educator-led)
- Versions tailored toward Grades 6–8, Grades 9–12 and post-high school
- Compelling ethical dilemmas, including 10 recently revised scenarios

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CURRICULUM OUTLINE

The *JA Excellence through Ethics* activities will vary based on participants' level.

Below is a sample outline for high school.

The Day of the Visit (required session, volunteer-led)

A business professional volunteer will speak to the participants about ethics and lead self-assessment and ethics scenario activities. The session will last approximately 60–90 minutes.

Reflection Activity (optional session, educator-led)

This optional reflection session is intended for educators to implement with participants following the volunteer visit.

Participants will reflect and discuss their learnings after interacting with a local business professional who articulated how and why professionals make ethical choices and decisions regarding relationships, the work environment, and life.

Personal ethical dilemmas, including:

- Cheating
- Gossiping
- Acting in jealousy or anger
- Calling out lies
- Personal responsibility
- Borrowing money
- Protecting others' privacy
- Inappropriate social media posts
- Subverting parental/caregiver rules

Business ethical dilemmas, including:

- Theft
- Selling fake products
- False advertising
- Maintaining quality standards
- Protecting customer safety
- Fair allocation of commissions
- Honoring promises to customers
- Piracy of copyrighted material
- Dealing with employees and partners