LEARNING EXPERIENCE BRIEF

JA Our Nation®

▶ Work and Career Readiness ▶ Financial Literacy
▶ Entrepreneurial Mindset

As part of a K-5 learning suite designed to develop durable competencies and intrinsic motivation, *JA Our Nation* introduces fifth-grade students to essential aspects of our nation's economy, skill development, career exploration, and community involvement. Students will see how their skills and actions contribute to their own success and to the economy. Through hands-on games and activities, students will discover how competition and innovation work, explore different career options, and learn the value of giving back to their community.

LEARNING EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Five 45-minute sessions
- High-quality, approachable lessons with engaging, hands-on activities that incorporate future-ready and real-world concepts
- School-to-home activities that extend learning from the classroom to students' families and their own communities
- Character development infused into sessions through "The Adventures of Jade and Jack" and accompanying activities and talking points
- Age-appropriate content in financial literacy and work readiness with entrepreneurial mindset woven throughout

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.

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.

LEARNING EXPERIENCE OBJECTIVES

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

- Analyze how transferable skills, education, and personal interests add value to career success.
- Demonstrate understanding of how networking allows one to accomplish personal or community goals.
- Explain how competition and innovation between producers and consumers shape the U.S. market economy.

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CURRICULUM OUTLINE

1 Session One: Winning With Competition

Students play a pricing game to learn about the nation's market economy, consisting of consumers and producers, and how price, variety, and quality are affected by competition.

2 Session Two: Innovation Nation

Students explore how they can improve products or processes to benefit both people and the environment. They engage in problem-solving and innovation to enhance sustainability.

3 Session Three: Success Skills

Students play a board game to understand and explore transferable skills and apply those skills to life and work situations. Thinking about the essential question "What skills will help me be successful in my job or career?" helps them to evaluate their own transferable skills.

4 Session Four: Career Horizons

Students discover how their skills and interests can connect to many different careers. By comparing occupations, they learn how skills, education, and income vary across career pathways and affect future opportunities.

5 Session Five: Connecting for a Cause

Students are introduced to philanthropy and the importance of using empathy to help others. They brainstorm needs in the community and evaluate the resources necessary to complete different projects that focus on building a community center. They then network with others to locate, negotiate, and trade for the time, treasure, and talent resources required to complete their projects.

Together at Home

Project Tiles

Skill Seekers Game Board

Right Price Scenario Cards and Price Tags

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