LEARNING EXPERIENCE BRIEF

JA Career Exploration Fair®

▶ Work and Career Readiness

JA Exploration Fair is an event where participants learn about a range of career options across multiple career clusters. Volunteers share information about their businesses and/or jobs and participants ask questions as the speakers or participants rotate from station to station. Activities and implementation design will vary based on participants' level.

This event is part of the JA Work and Career Readiness Pathway and can be placed in grades K–12 and post-high school, in-school or after-school/out-of-school.

LEARNING EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Structured educator and volunteer guides and student guides available for download
- Optional educator-led sessions are available for before the fair and after the fair
- Four versions tailored toward grades K–2, grades 3–5, grades 6–8, and grades 9–12 and post-high school

JA'S TURNKEY SOLUTION FOR EDUCATORS & VOLUNTEERS:

Junior Achievement's national network of educators and volunteers help today's young people connect the dots between what they learn in school and their future, using approachable work readiness, entrepreneurial mindset, and financial literacy curriculum.

PERSONALIZED SERVICE

JA works to ensure that local educators and volunteers come together to engage students. Combining personalized volunteer placement, educator engagement, and standards-based curriculum at a local level provides service and support for each JA Learning Experience.

COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING & SUPPORT

JA staff offers 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 JA learning experience, helping students feel connected to their community. The time commitment is minimal compared to the significant impact made.

Junior Achievement™

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LEARNING EXPERIENCE OBJECTIVES

Participant objectives will vary based on participants' level. Generally participants will:

- Observe career speakers and the tools they use.
- Identify the variety of careers people have in the community.
- Express how jobs require specific interests and skills.
- Relate the impact of personal interests and abilities on career choices.
- Investigate a variety of careers and the skills, education preparation, training, and personal qualities needed for those careers.
- Examine how education applies to career paths.
- Explain the importance of staying in school, graduating school, and beyond..

CURRICULUM OUTLINE

Before the Career Fair (optional session, educator-led)

Pre-JA Career Exploration Fair Session: 45 minutes

In the pre-fair session, participants will assess their abilities, interests, work preferences, and values in preparation for the *JA Career Exploration Fair*.

The Day of the Fair (required session, educator-led)

Approximately 3–5 hours

The *JA Career Exploration Fair* schedule will vary based on participants' level.

The Fair can either be set up in a gymnasium where participants visit various booths, or in classrooms where participants (or volunteers) rotate from classroom to classroom.

During the *JA Career Exploration Fair*, participants engage with volunteers and learn more about different businesses and jobs.

After the Career Fair (optional session, educator-led)

Post-JA Career Exploration Fair Session: 45 minutes

In the post-fair session, participants will reflect on their *JA Career Exploration Fair* experiences.

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