LEARNING EXPERIENCE BRIEF

JA All About Cars®

▶ Financial Literacy

Buying your first car is both exciting and daunting. *JA All About Cars* introduces participants to the essential costs related to buying and operating a first car and offers tips on being a smart consumer when purchasing a vehicle. In this volunteer-led session, participants will consider their needs and wants to make a real-world connection to the car-buying experience, motivating them to make good financial decisions when buying or leasing.

LEARNING EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- One vounteer-led session with digital options
- Part of the JA Financial Literacy Pathway
- Placement: Grades 9–12 and post-high school
- Can be delivered as a stand-alone session or used in conjunction with another JA financial literacy learning experience, such as *JA Personal Finance*® or *JA Finance Park*®

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Warm-Up: Dream Car (5 minutes):

Volunteers introduce the session by displaying video and images of various dream cars and then lead a discussion with participants about their dream car and whether a dream car is realistic for most people. Volunteers also share their experience about a dream car or buying their first car.

Explore: Which Car is Right for Me? (10 minutes):

Volunteers share examples of some things that they considered when choosing a car. Participants complete a survey or questionnaire to identify their driving needs and then prioritize their needs.

Discuss: What Can I Afford? (20–25 minutes):

Volunteers share basic information about paying for a car, focusing on the pros and cons of buying versus leasing. Volunteers help participants identify a car that meets their needs and research the costs of that car. Participants decide whether they would prefer to finance or lease, and the volunteer shares scenarios to reinforce the pros and cons of both options. Then volunteers lead a short discussion about the costs associated with owning and maintaining a car.

Wrap-Up: Looking Ahead (5 minutes):

Volunteers summarize key points from the session and lead a reflection discussion with participants.

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