LEARNING EXPERIENCE BRIEF

JA Future Ready Leaders™

▶ Work and Career Readiness



JA Future Ready Leaders is a leadership development learning experience for students in Grades 9–12 that prepares them to lead through character, communication, and intentional decision-making. Rather than learning about leadership in the abstract, students practice it in realistic situations, reflect on how they respond, and apply those skills in an authentic classroom setting. *JA Future Ready Leaders* culminates in an Applied Learning Experience, where students facilitate Junior Achievement sessions for Grades K–5 students in elementary classrooms.

JA Future Ready Leaders is built around two tracks that prepare students to facilitate Junior Achievement learning experiences in K–5 classrooms. The Volunteer Track focuses on how leadership looks in action and builds essential facilitation skills. The Leadership Track adds three additional sessions to deepen the mindset and decision-making students rely on when working with young learners. Regardless of the track chosen, each ensures every student is ready—both in skill and in character—to lead in elementary schools.

LEARNING EXPERIENCE OBJECTIVES

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

- Understand leadership as behavior rooted in character, not authority or title.
- Pause, assess, and make thoughtful decisions when multiple needs compete.
- Communicate clearly and respond to what others need in the moment.
- Adjust calmly and intentionally when plans do not go as expected.
- Facilitate lessons for Grades K–5 students with clarity, confidence, and inclusive leadership.

LEARNING EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Five 45-minute sessions and an Applied Learning Experience: three optional Leadership sessions help students develop leadership, decision-making, and reflections skills, while two required prep sessions equip students to facilitate JA learning experiences with younger students. The experience culminates in an Applied Learning Experience where students serve as facilitators in classroom settings.

Experiential, collaborative learning that develops leadership and facilitation skills: students engage in scenario-based decision-making, role-plays, communication challenges, hands-on exploration of JA instructional materials, and reflection activities that build confidence and prepare them to lead learning experiences for younger students.

Authentic leadership practice through service learning: students apply leadership, communication, problem-solving, adaptability, and teamwork skills while facilitating learning experiences for elementary students, then reflect on rubric-based observation feedback to identify strengths, growth areas, and next steps.

Community engagement through applied learning opportunities: students extend their learning beyond the classroom by serving as role models and facilitators for younger learners, connecting leadership development to meaningful community impact.

Work and Career Readiness Content: High school-appropriate content in Work and Career Readiness

Junior Achievement™

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JA Future Ready Leaders

Volunteer Track



Leadership Track



VOLUNTEER TRACK CURRICULUM OUTLINE

Prep Session One: Communicating and Responding as a Facilitator

Students develop communication and facilitation skills that help create engaging learning experiences for younger students. They practice recognizing participation cues, responding to learner needs, and adapting to classroom situations.

Prep Session Two: Applied Learning Experience Preparation

Students prepare to facilitate JA learning experiences by exploring session materials, facilitator resources, and instructional strategies. They build confidence through hands-on activities and practice responding to realistic classroom situations.

Applied Learning Experience

Students facilitate JA learning experiences with elementary students and apply leadership, communication, and teamwork skills in an authentic setting. They gain real-world experience supporting younger learners while serving as positive role models and leaders.

JA Future Ready Leaders

LEADERSHIP TRACK CURRICULUM OUTLINE

Leadership Session One: Leading with Purpose

Students explore how leadership is demonstrated through everyday actions and character traits rather than titles or positions. They use a Leadership Filter to evaluate real-world scenarios and learn how thoughtful decisions can positively influence others.

Prep Session One: Communicating and Responding as a Facilitator

Students develop communication and facilitation skills that help create engaging learning experiences for younger students. They practice recognizing participation cues, responding to learner needs, and adapting to classroom situations.

Leadership Session Two: Leading Through Decision-Making

Students strengthen critical thinking and problem-solving skills through realistic leadership and facilitation scenarios. They use a structured decision-making process to evaluate options, consider impacts, and choose appropriate actions.

Prep Session Two: Applied Learning Experience Preparation

Students prepare to facilitate JA learning experiences by exploring session materials, facilitator resources, and instructional strategies. They build confidence through hands-on activities and practice responding to realistic classroom situations.

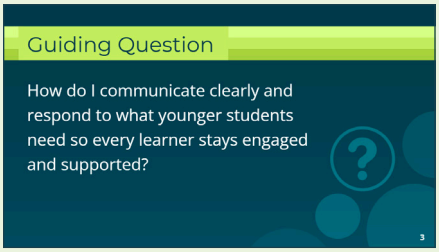
Applied Learning Experience

Students facilitate JA learning experiences with elementary students and apply leadership, communication, and teamwork skills in an authentic setting. They gain real-world experience supporting younger learners while serving as positive role models and leaders.

Leadership Session Three: Leading Through Reflection

Students reflect on their Applied Learning Experience to identify strengths, growth areas, and patterns in their leadership. They use peer feedback and self-assessment to set goals and create a plan for continued leadership development.

Onscreen Presentation



Facilitator Guide



Student Guide



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