LEARNING EXPERIENCE BRIEF

JA Our Community®



▶ Financial Literacy ▶ Work and Career Readiness

As part of a K-5 learning suite designed to develop durable competencies and intrinsic motivation, *JA Our Community* introduces second graders to the many roles people play in a community and how communities work to meet shared needs. Students explore jobs, businesses, and the use of money, through activities that show how people rely on one another. The learning experience takes familiar places—like stores, schools, and neighborhoods—and connects them to larger ideas of cooperation and citizenship. By participating in hands-on experiences such as games and role-plays, students develop confidence and a sense of belonging as capable contributors to their community's success.

The *JA Our Community* learning experience helps students see themselves as community members, and helps them understand the role of money in a community, including getting paid and paying taxes.

LEARNING EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Flexible model, designed to support multiple learning environments and to accommodate educator-led and volunteer-led opportunities
- Engaging and interactive activities, games, and role-plays that support learning objectives
- Flexible facilitation materials including both print and digital guides to accommodate preferences and ease of use
- Includes five 45-minute sessions
- At-home activities extend the lessons from the classroom to students' families and their own communities

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.

Junior Achievement™

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JA Our Community

LEARNING EXPERIENCE OBJECTIVES

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

- Define and describe a community and the variety of jobs people do there.
- Explain how people earn income.
- Explain how people choose different payment methods depending on what they're buying.
- Identify and propose a solution to a community problem.
- Explain how the taxes we pay support government workers and services in the community.

CURRICULUM OUTLINE

1 Session One: Community Workers

Students are introduced to a community and the kinds of jobs people do in a community. They discuss the skills people need to do their jobs and how people contribute to and benefit from their community.

2 Session Two: Pizza Payday

Students are introduced to the concept of producing goods and services and how one particular good in the community—pizza!—is made. They discuss why people work and how people earn money for their work.

3 Session Three: Ways We Pay

Students learn about common payment methods and how money is used in everyday life. They explore four ways to pay and choose which one fits best in various shopping scenarios.

4 Session Four: Who Pays for That?

Students learn how taxes support the community and why people pay them. They explore public services and jobs funded by taxes. Students also complete an activity where they make decisions about how to allocate tax dollars to support the community projects they believe are most important.

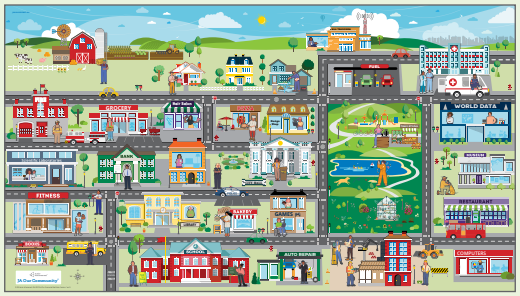
5 Session Five: Making Choices Together

Students learn about what it means to be a responsible member of a community. They identify problems in a community park, listen to ideas from other community members, brainstorm possible solutions, and then vote on the solution they would like the community to do first.

The Adventures of Jade and Jack Storybooks

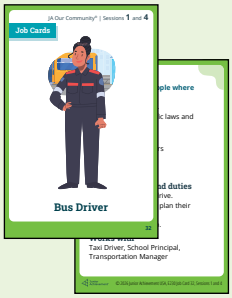


Community Map Poster



Job Cards





Junior Achievement™