LEARNING EXPERIENCE BRIEF

JA Our Community®

▶ Work and Career Readiness ▶ Financial Literacy

Through *JA Our Community*, students are immersed in the daily life of their community—the people who work there, the money decisions they make, the flow of the community's economy, and the importance of being an involved and responsible community member.

They are introduced to the types of skills and knowledge necessary to be a worker in the community: the experience of working as a team in a pizza shop, buying and selling of goods and services in exchange for money, getting paid and paying taxes, exercising their civic duty to make decisions for the good of the community, and using digital tools.

This learning experience is designed for second grade students.

LEARNING EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Five 45-minute sessions, with the option of an additional session on computer skills and digital tools
- A 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
- At-home activities that extend the lessons from the classroom to students' families and their own communities

JA'S TURNKEY SOLUTION FOR EDUCATORS AND 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 the "business of life"—work readiness, entrepreneurial mindset, and financial literacy.

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 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

Following participation in the learning experience, students will be able to:

- Define and describe a community.
- Explain how people earn income.
- Describe the role of banks in an economy.
- Identify and propose a creative solution to a community problem.
- Explain why community members pay taxes.

CURRICULUM OUTLINE

1 **Session One: Communities at Work**

Students are introduced to the idea of a community and discover what types of workers help make their community strong.

2 **Session Two: People at Work**

Students experience working in the community to earn a paycheck and produce goods and services.

3 **Session Three: Money at Work**

Students learn how people use money to buy goods and services they want and need for personal or business purposes.

4 **Session Four: Votes Count**

Students discuss the responsibilities of being a part of the community and how they can help make decisions that impact the community.

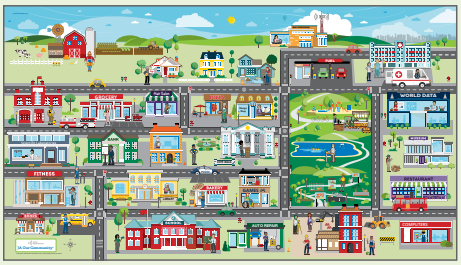
5 **Session Five: Making Choices**

Students are introduced to the concept of taxes and how those funds are used to pay government workers and provide services to support the community.

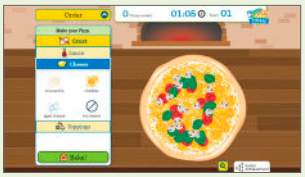
6 **Session Six (Optional): Crack the Code**

Students learn how digital skills are applied in the community and discuss the types of jobs that require computers or programming skills.

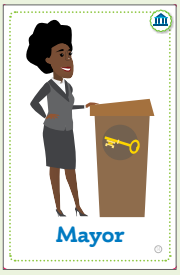
Community Map



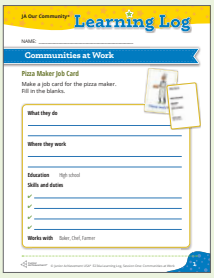
Pizza Game



Job Cards



Learning Log



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