

## LEARNING EXPERIENCE BRIEF

# JA Our Nation<sup>®</sup>

- ▶ Work and Career Readiness
- ▶ Financial Literacy
- ▶ Entrepreneurial Mindset



*JA Our Nation* introduces fifth grade students to essential aspects of our nation's economy, skill development, career exploration, and community involvement. Students will see how their skills and actions contribute to their own success and to the economy. Through hands-on games and activities, students will discover how competition and innovation work, explore different career options, and learn the value of giving back to their community.

### LEARNING EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Five 45-minute sessions
- High-quality, approachable lessons with engaging, hands-on activities that incorporate future-ready and real-world concepts
- School-to-home activities that extend learning from the classroom to students' families and their own communities
- JA Mindset™ infused into sessions through “The Adventures of Jade and Jack” and accompanying activities and talking points
- Age-appropriate content in financial literacy and work readiness with entrepreneurial mindset woven throughout

### LEARNING EXPERIENCE OBJECTIVES

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

- Analyze how transferable skills, education, and personal interests add value to career success.
- Demonstrate understanding of how networking allows one to accomplish personal or community goals.
- Explain how competition and innovation between producers and consumers shape the U.S. market economy.

### 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 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.

## CURRICULUM OUTLINE

### 1 Session One: Winning with Competition

Students play a pricing game to learn about the nation's market economy, consisting of consumers and producers, and how price, variety, and quality are affected by competition.

### 2 Session Two: Innovation Nation

Students explore how they can improve products or processes to benefit both people and the environment. They engage in problem-solving and innovation to enhance sustainability.

### 3 Session Three: Success Skills

Students play a board game to understand and explore transferable skills and apply those skills to life and work situations. Thinking about the essential question "What skills will help me be successful in my job or career?" helps them to evaluate their own transferable skills.

### 4 Session Four: Career Horizons

Students explore how their interests and skills can guide them in considering various jobs and careers in the nation. They will contemplate different occupations and reflect on how their unique strengths and passions influence the type of work they might want to pursue.

### 5 Session Five: Connecting for a Cause

Students are introduced to philanthropy and the importance of helping others in the community. They brainstorm the resources needed to plan small group projects aimed at creating a community center. Each group evaluates the resources they have and what they still need. Then, they network with one another to locate, negotiate, and trade for the time, treasure, and talent resources required to complete their projects.

Together at Home



Right Price Scenario Cards and Price Tags



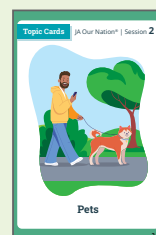
Job Offer Card



Skill Seekers Game Board



Innovation Challenge Topic Card



Project Tile

