



JA Our Nation™

Program Overview

JA Our Nation provides practical information about businesses' needs for individuals who can meet the demands of the job market, including high-growth, high-demand jobs. It introduces the concept of globalization of business and the need for students to be entrepreneurial in their thinking.

Following participation in the program, students will understand:

- That businesses need individuals with skills that are in demand in the workplace. They will learn about entrepreneurship, as well as the different types of resources needed in business production.
- The impact of global competition on business needs for employees and production materials.

Session Overviews and Objectives

<p>Session One What's Your Big Idea? Students practice being entrepreneurs by turning ideas into businesses. They identify the factors needed to create a variety of entrepreneurial ventures and to design an advertisement for their product.</p>	<p>Objectives Students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience free enterprise and entrepreneurship. • Identify the key factors in establishing an entrepreneurial business. • Create an advertisement.
<p>Supplemental Session Business Organization To further explore entrepreneurship and free enterprise, this session is optional for the volunteer to present after the first session. The teacher also may present it. Students explore free enterprise by experiencing three ways that a business is organized.</p>	<p>Objective Students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the three types of business organizations.
<p>Session Two What's a Resource? Students learn about resources and how they apply to technology, workers, and the needs of businesses and industries.</p>	<p>Objectives Students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe resources, particularly human and capital resources. • Define scarcity and opportunity cost. • Discuss technology as a capital resource in demand by most businesses.
<p>Session Three Job to Job Students examine the skills needed for jobs that are important to business in a free enterprise system, particularly the skills related to high-growth, high-demand jobs.</p>	<p>Objectives Students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the skills that support high-growth, high-demand jobs. • Analyze their own skills to see how they fit in the workplace.

Session Overviews and Objectives

<p>Session Four A Cluster of Skills Students learn about career clusters and the background necessary for each job. They are introduced to a simple resume that uses typical resume components.</p>	<p>Objectives Students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify clusters of skills and the background required by those jobs.• Create a simple resume.
<p>Session Five Worldwide Connections Students are introduced to specialization and competition. They explore how their nation is connected to the global economy. They see how specialization and technology have contributed to free enterprise and their effect on the global business world.</p>	<p>Objectives Students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Describe specialization and competition in business.• Experience the global needs of many businesses.

Program Basics

- Includes a series of five sessions recommended for students in fifth grade.
- Average time for each session is 45 minutes.
- Materials are packaged in a self-contained kit that includes detailed plans for the volunteer and materials for 32 students.
- Introduces the concept of globalization of business as it relates to the various careers students may choose to pursue and the need for students to be entrepreneurial in their thinking to meet the requirements of high-growth, high-demand careers worldwide.
- Session-specific, age-appropriate materials included to increase student interaction and emphasize JA's experiential approach to learning.
- Correlates well to state social studies, English, and math standards, as well as the Common Core State Standards in English/Language Arts and mathematics.

JA Our Nation enhances students' learning of the following concepts and skills:

Concepts—Advertising, Capital resources, Career preparation, Communication, Competition, Corporation, Demand, Employees, Employers, Engineering, Entrepreneur, Free enterprise, Global competition, Goods, High-growth, high-demand jobs, Human resources, Natural resources, Opportunity costs, Partnerships, Price, Products, Profit, Resources, Resume, Scarcity, Services, Skills, Sole proprietorship, Specialization, Stock, Stockholders, Supply, Technology

Skills—Addition and subtraction, Brainstorming, Conceptualizing and designing advertisements, Creative thinking, Critical thinking, Decision-making, Drawing conclusions, Estimating, Evaluation, Following directions, Graphing and graph interpretation, Listening, Map reading, Problem-solving, Reading and writing, Reasoning, Role-playing, Teamwork, Verbal communication, Working in groups