

## JA Our City® | Program Brief

*JA Our City* featuring Cha-Ching™ introduces third-grade students to financial literacy and grade-level social studies learning objectives, including how people manage their money and the importance of economic exchange within a city. Dr. Alice Wilder, an award-winning expert on childhood learning (*Blue's Clues*, *Super Why*, *Cha-Ching*, *Speakaboos*, and *Amazon Kids* original programming), consulted on the program's redevelopment. The program is volunteer-taught and kit-based and includes five 45-minute sessions.

### New features include:

- Cha-Ching financial literacy music video enhancements
- Optional augmented reality activities to do at home with parents or caregivers, enabling students to complete a word search or maze or watch a video through a phone app
- Digital posters and games for use in the classroom
- Extended Learning Opportunities and Optional Supplements

### Following participation in the program, students will be able to:

- Explain the choices people have with money.
- Recognize methods of payment and whether they are readily visible or invisible.
- Examine the importance of money to a city and its citizens.
- Describe how entrepreneurial businesses meet the needs and wants of citizens.



### Session Titles and Summaries:

**1 Session One: Earn, Save, Spend, and Donate**  
Students develop an awareness of the four choices they have with money: earn, save, spend, and donate. In the session, students watch and discuss Cha-Ching's "Money Choices" music video and play a board game to reinforce the importance of balancing the choices consumers have with money.

**2 Session Two: Invisible Money**  
Students learn about the different forms of money and how people use them to pay for goods and services. In the session, students watch and discuss Cha-Ching's "Invisible Money" music video and examine the Many Ways to Pay! Poster.

**3 Session Three: How Do I Become an Entrepreneur?**  
Students develop an understanding of entrepreneurship and are introduced to the idea that entrepreneurs promote a healthy economy within a city. In the session, students watch and discuss Cha-Ching's "Entrepreneur" music video, and become business owners, creating business plans for a restaurant of their choosing.

**4 Session Four: Money Choices Make the City Go Round**  
Students examine the importance of money as it travels back and forth between consumers, businesses, and the city government. In the session, students watch and discuss Cha-Ching's "When You Get Money" music video and role-play how money moves in a city.

**5 Session Five: Let's Build a City!**  
A city thrives when all three sectors of the economy earn, save, spend, and donate. In the session, students watch and discuss Cha-Ching's "Cha-Cha Choices" music video and design and construct a pop-up business to place on the City Map.



Join Junior Achievement's national network of more than 237,000 volunteers and help students in your community connect the dots between what they learn in school and the "business of life" — work readiness, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy.

### JA's Turn-Key Volunteer Solution:

#### Personalized Placement

JA works with you to ensure you teach at the location and grade level of your choice.

#### Comprehensive Training

JA staff provides training and access to online resources so you are comfortable visiting the classroom. You will be trained in classroom management, understanding and delivering the JA curriculum, working with the classroom teacher, and communicating effectively with students.

#### Minimal Time Commitment

The time commitment is minimal compared to the significant impact you make. This elementary grade-level program includes five 45-minute sessions.

JA provides you with a kit containing all of the session plans and student materials you'll need to make every minute count.

#### JA Staff Follow-Up and Support

JA staff is available to answer your questions or make suggestions about your volunteer assignment.

# JA Our City® | Kit Description

The program provides a fundamental introduction to financial literacy, and how people in cities manage their money. Here are select items found in the kit.



- 1
**Guide for Volunteers and Teachers**  
 Provides session plans, teaching tips, and talking points
- 2
**Cha-Ching Music Videos**  
 Introduces financial literacy and inspires storytelling and story sharing
- 3
**Vocabulary Flash Cards**  
 Help students see and learn the program's key vocabulary; digital asset available
- 4
**City Map**  
 Shows the different business areas in a city; digital asset available
- 5
**Junior Journal**  
 An activities flier students use in class and at home
- 6
**Pop-Up Buildings**  
 Hand-size buildings that students color, construct, and place on the City Map
- 7
**Many Ways to Pay! Poster**  
 Shows different types of payment methods
- 8
**Earn, Save, Spend, and Donate Game Board**  
 Students learn about the four choices we have with money; digital asset available
- 9
**Reci-Ps Business Plan Placemat Sheet**  
 Helps students create a business plan to open a restaurant
- 10
**Postcard with Magnet**  
 A fun take-home magnetic picture frame
- 11
**Certificates of Achievement**  
 Given to students in recognition of their participation in the program