

JA Our Nation®

JA Our Nation introduces students to the intersection of work readiness and fifth grade social studies learning objectives, including how the free market system serves as an economic engine for business and careers.

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

- Identify the characteristics of a free market economy.
- Define entrepreneurship and explore the process of innovation.
- Understand that businesses need people with technical skills to support high-growth, high-demand jobs.
- Compare career clusters.
- Explore how the United States is tied to the global economy.



Session Titles and Summaries:

1

Session One: Free to Choose Your Work or Business

Students are introduced to the nation's free market system and how it supports businesses and careers.

2

Session Two: Innovation Nation

Students experience how entrepreneurial thinking can spur new businesses and the opportunity for future income. A wristband directs students to an online playable that explores STEM careers and skills.

3

Session Three: Career Clusters

Students examine career groups and the skills needed for a variety of careers.

4

Session Four: Get and Keep the Job!

Students identify important work-readiness soft skills necessary for career success.

5

Session Five: Global Connections

Students explore how the United States is connected to the global economy.

6

Supplemental Session: Business Organization

Students dig deeper and experience the three ways businesses are organized.

The program focuses on the U.S. free market economy and introduces the need for entrepreneurial and innovating thinking to meet the needs of today's high-growth, high-demand careers. Selected program pieces appear below.

Join Junior Achievement's national network of more than 213,500 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 Turnkey 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 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.



- 1 Guide for Volunteers and Teachers**
 Provides session plans, teaching tips, and talking points.
- 2 Certificate of Achievement**
 Given to students in recognition of their participation.
- 3 JA Our Nation Student Flier**
 One for each session; provides the volunteer and teacher with follow-up activities.
- 4 Key Term Flash Cards**
 Help students see, hear, and learn the program vocabulary.
- 5 STEM Skills Poster**
 A colorful visual aide that defines Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics skills.
- 6 Career Cluster Trading Cards**
 Students locate key information on cards to learn about jobs found within career clusters.
- 7 Career ID Bookmark**
 A handy aid that lists the 16 career clusters
- 8 Get and Keep the Job! Game Board**
 Students play a game to learn about important soft skills.
- 9 Mystery Puzzle Card Sheets**
 Students assemble puzzle cards to identify products using global resources.
- 10 Business Role-Play Sticker Sheet**
 Used in the supplemental session to emphasize business organization.
- 11 STEM Skills Wristband**
 Directs students to an online playable.