



JA Career Exploration Fair

Program Overview | Initial Release

JA Career Exploration Fair is an event where students learn about a range of career options across multiple career clusters. Volunteers share information about their businesses and/or jobs and students ask questions as the speakers or students rotate from station to station. Activities and implementation design will vary based on grade level.

Highlights

- Structured educator and volunteer guides and student guides available for download
- Optional teacher-led sessions are available for before the fair and after the fair
- Four versions are tailored toward grades K–2, grades 3–5, grades 6–8, and grades 9–12
- Includes a JA Career Fair Tip Sheet for JA Area staff

This event is part of the JA Work and Career Readiness Pathway and can be placed in grades K-12, in-school or after-school/out-of-school. The event may receive 3 to 5 Instructional Contact Hours (ICH) based on delivery of the optional content; volunteers are required.

Student objectives, activities, and guides will vary based on grade level.

Session	Overview	Objectives/Goals	Activities
Before the Fair (Optional)	Students assess their abilities, interests, and values in preparation for the <i>JA Career Exploration Fair</i> .	Students will be able to... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define <i>career</i>. • Differentiate between abilities (skills) and values. • Identify their personal characteristics. 	Students... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete self-assessment activities in their <i>JA Career Exploration Fair</i> Student Workbooks.
The Day of the Fair	Students learn from volunteers about a range of career options across multiple career clusters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet and interact with various business representatives. • Understand the training and education needed for a variety of jobs. • Integrate self-knowledge into career planning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take their workbooks with them to attend the fair. They will fill in the blanks on the appropriate pages with the answers the guest speakers provide.
After the Fair (Optional)	Students reflect on their <i>JA Career Exploration Fair</i> experiences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify a future career goal. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete Reflection Exercise activities in their <i>JA Career Exploration Fair</i> Student Workbooks.

Session	Overview	Objectives/Goals	Activities
After the Event	Students reflect on what they learned during their preparation and the speaker event.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognize career clusters. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students report one or two of the most significant things they each learned from the preparation and speaker event. Students write a thank you note to the speaker. Students work in pairs to create a Career Cluster Scavenger Hunt. Optional: Use online supplements, Battle of the Bands, and JA Assembling Your Career if these were not explored previously.

Concepts: Abilities, Business, Careers, Choices, Community, Earn, Goals, Goods, Guest speakers, Interests, Job, Pay, Resume, Services, Skills, Talent, Work values

Skills: Decision making, Formulating questions, Listening responsively, Making observations, Note taking, Reasoning, Social skills, Verbal communication

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