JA Our Families introduces students to learning objectives for first-grade social studies, including families, neighborhoods, money, and needs and wants. Through hands-on classroom activities, students also explore the concept of entrepreneurship, specifically the ways in which businesses provide goods, services, and jobs for families. JA Our Families is volunteer-taught and kit-based, and includes five 30-minute sessions, with additional extended learning activities and optional digital assets offered throughout.

### Session Overview

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| **SESSION ONE**<br>All Kinds of Families | Discover how families are alike and different and how they can work together to create a strong economy for the neighborhood. | • Begin to understand the similarities and differences among families.  
• Recognize the importance of businesses to a neighborhood. | • Learn about families with the help of the JA Our Families Neighborhood Poster.  
• Read, complete sentences, and enhance Picture Books with colorful stickers of neighborhood scenes. |
| **SESSION TWO**<br>Money for Needs and Wants | Become aware that all families need food, clothing, and shelter to live and must earn money to pay for them. | • Describe the difference between needs and wants.  
• Explain that families must earn money for the things they need and want. | • Identify needs and wants through the use of picture cards.  
• Play the Needs and Wants Game found in their Junior Journal. |
| **SESSION THREE**<br>Businesses All Around the Neighborhood | Begin to understand that the needs and wants of families create opportunities for entrepreneurs to start businesses. | • Define entrepreneur, goods and services.  
• Interpret map symbols.  
• Identify the goods or services businesses provide. | • Place Business Symbol Cards on a Floor Map to highlight neighborhood businesses.  
• Decide where to place business stickers on their maps. |
| **SESSION FOUR**<br>Jobs All Around the Neighborhood | Recognize that entrepreneurs create businesses, which provide jobs for families and make the place where they live better. | • Identify the jobs people do.  
• Analyze their own skills to determine ways they can support family members. | • Give clues to a classmate to help him or her guess a worker’s job.  
• Complete the Jobs I Can Do! page in their journals. |
| **SESSION FIVE**<br>A New Business | Think like entrepreneurs and help advertise a new business needed in the neighborhood. | • Describe one of the entrepreneurial characteristics: Satisfy a Need or a Want. | • Solve math problems to color in a picture of a new business in the neighborhood. |

### Concepts:

Business, earning, economic incentives, employment, entrepreneurship, family, fill a need, goods and services, income, job, money, needs and wants, neighborhood, scarcity, shelter, skills, spend, symbols, work

### Skills:

Analyzing information, creative thinking, decision making, differentiating, drawing, following directions, listening and responding, making observations, map reading, math calculations, reading, recognizing and interpreting symbols, verbal communication, working in pairs