A Correlation: 
Alabama 
Academic Standards 
and 
Junior Achievement 
Capstone Programs

Updated May 2017 (November 2021) 
Common Core State Standards Included 

Career Preparedness

Junior Achievement USA®
One Education Way
Colorado Springs, CO 80906
www.ja.org
Overview

The following correlation features the knowledge and skills that students are introduced to in JA Capstone Programs and how they correspond to the state Social Studies Framework. The correlation is not meant to be exhaustive, nor is it intended to infer that any one resource will completely address any given standard. It is designed to show how JA BizTown® and JA Finance Park® will enhance or complement efforts to meet educational standards. Alternate delivery methods, such as student self-guided, cover the same learning objectives for social studies standards and the JA Pathway Competencies. However, the varied implementation models may cause slight variation in English Language Arts and Mathematics correlations.

JA BizTown encompasses important elements of work readiness, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy, providing students with a solid foundation of business, economics, and free enterprise education. Through daily lessons, hands-on activities, and active participation in a simulated community designed to support differentiated learning styles, students develop a strong understanding of the relationship between what they learn in school and successful participation in an economy. JA BizTown helps prepare students for a lifetime of learning and academic achievement.

JA BizTown Adventures is an alternative (or supplement) to the simulated community experience when students do not have access to a facility. It provides the same great social studies, work readiness, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy concepts in an online self-guided format. JA BizTown Adventures can be easily used in remote implementation and independent study when combined with the student self-guided implementation of the JA BizTown curriculum. Both implementation options augment students’ core curriculum in social studies, English language arts, and mathematics. Throughout the programs, students use critical-thinking skills to learn about key concepts as they explore and enhance their understanding of free enterprise.

JA Finance Park lessons address fundamental financial literacy and economic concepts, explore career interests and opportunities, and develop work-readiness skills. The lessons culminate in a hands-on budgeting simulation that includes decisions related to income, expenses, savings, and credit.

The JA Finance Park program provides two curriculum levels: Entry Level and Advanced. The Entry Level curriculum is geared towards students who are new to personal finance or have never taken a financial literacy class. The JA Finance Park Advanced curriculum is geared towards high school students, and those with some prior knowledge of personal finances, allowing students a peek at their future financial decisions. All curriculum options provide educators a method of delivery that will best meet the needs of their students and culminate with a visit to JA Finance Park, a realistic on-site or mobile facility, where students engage with volunteers and put into practice what they’ve learned by developing a personal budget. JA Finance Park simulation is also available virtually in the classroom.

JA Finance Park Entry Level offers three implementations’ options:

- Traditional classroom format - educator-led presentation
- Project-Based Learning (PBL) format - structured to include student group and independent work and a culminating project
- Student-self guided format - designed for remote implementation and independent learning

JA Finance Park Advanced offers a teacher-led blended classroom curriculum with a number of optional self-guided extension activities.
# Unit Description and Learning Objectives

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<th>Social Studies Standards</th>
<th>English Language Arts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unit 1: Financial Literacy</strong>&lt;br&gt;You must have money to spend money. Students need to understand this fundamental concept of earning and spending if they are to grasp the importance of sound personal finance. This unit introduces students to bank services and practices that will help them to be successful in <em>JA BizTown</em> and in life.</td>
<td><strong>Conceptual Framework</strong>&lt;br&gt;Economics&lt;br&gt;• Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity cost&lt;br&gt;• Apply financial literacy principles, including money management skills</td>
<td><strong>Grade 4</strong>&lt;br&gt;R1.4.3&lt;br&gt;R1.4.4&lt;br&gt;R1.4.5&lt;br&gt;R1.4.7&lt;br&gt;SL.4.1&lt;br&gt;SL.4.3&lt;br&gt;L.4.4</td>
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<td><strong>Mathematical Practices 4-6</strong>&lt;br&gt;1-7</td>
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**Objectives:**

**Students will:**

- Extrapolate services offered by financial institutions
- Complete a bank account application
- Demonstrate an ability to endorse a paycheck
- Complete a deposit ticket
- Maintain a check register correctly
- Describe the consequences of insufficient funds
- Write and sign checks
- State the benefit of an interest-earning savings account
- Explain how money in a savings account grows
- Explore the differences between checks, debit cards, and credit cards
- Explain how money changes hands when a debit card is used
- Demonstrate use of a check register to record a debit purchase
# Unit 2: Community and Economy

Students explore their role as citizens of a community. They are introduced to the concept of the circular flow of money and goods in an economy. They define basic economic concepts and discuss the impact of taxes and philanthropy.

## Objectives:

**Students will:**
- Define various vocabulary terms
- Explain how good citizens have a sense of responsibility to others and to their community
- Identify goods, services, and resources (human, natural, and capital)
- Demonstrate the circular flow of an economy
- Discover the function of businesses in producing goods and services
- Define scarcity and learn more about free enterprise
- Identify the three basic economic questions (what, how, and for whom to produce)
- Understand why people pay taxes
- Define gross pay and net pay
- Calculate tax by multiplying with decimals
- Differentiate between public goods and services and private goods and services
- Give examples of philanthropy

## Conceptual Framework

### Economics
- Understand the free enterprise system, the American economy, and differing economic views including the roles of entrepreneurs and the government;
- Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States

### Civics
- Identify rights and responsibilities of citizenship, including the practice of responsible citizenship.

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## Unit Description and Learning Objectives

### Unit 3: Work Readiness

Citizens learn how their interests and skills can lead to exciting careers. They have an opportunity to assess their own skills and interests and to see what kinds of jobs are available at JA BizTown. They have an opportunity to fill out a job application and experience the job interview process.

### Objectives:

**Students will:**

- Recognize their interests and skills
- Explain the relevance of interests and skills in career exploration and planning
- Distinguish the differences among the four primary career types: people, ideas, data, and things
- Categorize STEM careers into different types
- Demonstrate appropriate workplace behaviors
- Define resume, job interview, and applicant
- Complete a job application
- Model appropriate business greetings
- Demonstrate proper interview skills

## Social Studies Standards

### Conceptual Framework

**Economics**

- Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States

## English Language Arts

- **Grade 4**
  - RI.4.4
  - SL.4.1
  - L.4.1
  - L.4.2
  - L.4.4
  - L.4.6

- **Grade 5**
  - RI.5.4
  - SL.5.1
  - L.5.1
  - L.5.2
  - L.5.4
  - L.5.6

- **Grade 6**
  - SL.6.1
  - L.6.1
  - L.6.2
  - L.6.4
  - L.6.6

## Math

- **Grade 4**
  - 4.MD.4

- **Grade 5**
  - 5.MD.2

- **Mathematical Practices 4-6**
  - 2
  - 4-6
### Unit Description and Learning Objectives

**Unit 4: Business Management**
Citizens prepare for their visit to JA BizTown by working in business teams to learn about key factors in operating a business, such as teamwork, operation costs, pricing, and advertising.

**Objectives:**

**Students will:**
- Describe costs associated with operating a business
- Calculate business expenses
- Use teamwork to create a paragraph that describes a business
- Define selling price, revenue, and inventory
- Describe factors that affect selling price
- Explain the relationship between revenue, costs, and profit
- Define advertising
- Describe characteristics of effective advertising
- Acknowledge how effective teamwork and cooperation enhance business teams
- Appreciate how careful completion of details ensures a more successful JA BizTown visit

### Social Studies Standards

**Economics**
- Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States
- Apply financial literacy principles including money management skill

### English Language Arts

**Grade 4**
- W.4.1
- W.4.2
- W.4.4
- SL.4.1
- L.4.1
- L.4.3
- L.4.4
- L.4.6

**Grade 5**
- W.5.1
- W.5.2
- W.5.4
- SL.5.1
- L.5.1
- L.5.3
- L.5.4
- L.5.6

**Grade 6**
- W.6.1
- W.6.4
- SL.6.1
- L.6.1
- L.6.3
- L.6.4
- L.6.6

### Math

**Grade 4**
- 4.NBT.5

**Grade 5**
- 5.NBT.5

**Grade 6**
- 6.NS.2
- 6.NS.3

**Mathematical Practices 4-6 1-7**
### Unit 5: Visit and Debrief

Citizens participate in the *JA BizTown* simulation and then return to class for a debriefing lesson to ensure they have a well-rounded learning experience. The debrief lesson allows citizens to reflect on their *JA BizTown* experience and further identify the relevance of classroom learning to their future plans and goals.

**Objectives:**

**Students will:**
- Function in their job capacity at *JA BizTown*
- Manage their personal finances and time
- Carry out responsibilities of citizenship, such as voting and obeying laws
- Evaluate team performance at *JA BizTown*
- Explain the circular flow of economic activity
- Describe how citizens use financial institutions
- Describe how citizens work within a quality business

#### Conceptual Framework

**Economics**
- Understand the free enterprise system, the American economy, and differing economic views including the roles of entrepreneurs and the government;
- Explain the law of supply and demand in a market economy.
- Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity cost
- Apply financial literacy principles, including money management skills

**Civics**
- Identify rights and responsibilities of citizenship, including the practice of responsible citizenship.

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### Session Details

#### Adventure One: CEO

As CEO students discover some of the responsibilities of running a business. They match their interests and skills to choose a corporation to lead, use the company’s mission statement to make a strategic decision, explore market analysis to identify a target market, compare applicant resumes to make a hiring decision while considering the company budget, and compile a letter to encourage customers.

**Objectives:**

**Students will:**
- Use knowledge of skills and interests to select a company
- Compare potential customers
- Identify target market
- Make a strategic decision
- Identify points in a mission statement
- Compare applicant resumes
- Make a budget-based decision
- Create a letter by making appropriate word choices

#### Conceptual Framework

**Economics**
- Understand the free enterprise system, the American economy, and differing economic views including the roles of entrepreneurs and the government;
- Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity cost
- Apply financial literacy principles, including money management skills

**Civics**
- Identify rights and responsibilities of citizenship, including the practice of responsible citizenship.

#### Grade

- **Grade 4**
  - RL.4.1-5
  - RL.4.7,10
  - W.4.2b,2d,2e
  - W.4.8
  - SL.4.3
  - L.4.4.6

- **Grade 5**
  - RL.5.1-5
  - RL.5.7,10
  - W.5.2b,2d,2e
  - W.5.8
  - SL.5.3
  - L.5.4-6

### Adventure Two CFO

As CFO students make budget decisions following a decision-making process and mathematical formula. They determine how much to charge for their services and which companies’ services offer the best value. They explore the need for cyber insurance to prevent online security breaches and review the company’s mission statement.

**Objectives:**

**Students will:**
- Use knowledge of skills and interests to select a company
- Deduct taxes to calculate net pay
- Determine price of items to make a profit using a formula
- Compare costs to make budget decisions
- Read terms and conditions to compare offers
- Evaluate proposals as part of a decision-making process

#### Conceptual Framework

**Economics**
- Understand the free enterprise system, the American economy, and differing economic views including the roles of entrepreneurs and the government;
- Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity cost
- Apply financial literacy principles, including money management skills

**Civics**
- Identify rights and responsibilities of citizenship, including the practice of responsible citizenship.

#### Grade

- **Grade 4**
  - RL.4.1-5
  - RL.4.7,10
  - W.4.2b,2d,2e
  - W.4.8
  - SL.4.3
  - L.4.4.6

- **Grade 5**
  - RL.5.1-5
  - RL.5.7,10
  - W.5.2b,2d,2e
  - W.5.8
  - SL.5.3
  - L.5.4-6

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<td><strong>Adventure Three: Marketing Director</strong></td>
<td><strong>Economics</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Understand the free enterprise system, the American economy, and differing economic views including the roles of entrepreneurs and the government;&lt;br&gt;• Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States&lt;br&gt;• Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity cost&lt;br&gt;• Apply financial literacy principles, including money management skills</td>
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<td>5.nbt.1-2</td>
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<td><strong>Students will:</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Use knowledge of skills and interests to select a company&lt;br&gt;• Identify an idea for a new product or service&lt;br&gt;• Attempt to resolve solutions to customer pain points&lt;br&gt;• Identify characteristics of target markets&lt;br&gt;• Explore advertising avenues and marketing tools&lt;br&gt;• Plan a marketing campaign&lt;br&gt;• Compare cost effectiveness of different advertisements&lt;br&gt;• Examine fine print on contracts</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Adventure Four: Sales Manager</strong></td>
<td><strong>Economics</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Understand the free enterprise system, the American economy, and differing economic views including the roles of entrepreneurs and the government;&lt;br&gt;• Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States&lt;br&gt;• Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity cost&lt;br&gt;• Apply financial literacy principles, including money management skills</td>
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<td>5.nbt.1-2 5.nbt.4-5</td>
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<td><strong>Students will:</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Use knowledge of skills and interests to select a company&lt;br&gt;• Explore traits that convey good work ethic&lt;br&gt;• Compare resumes&lt;br&gt;• Use a decision-making process to make hiring decisions&lt;br&gt;• Use a problem-solving process to improve customer service</td>
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## Session Details

**Adventure Five: Consumer**

As consumer, students make financial decisions and choices having to do with bank accounts and types of payments. They learn to keep a transaction register, calculate net pay, choose needs over wants, and set and re-evaluate a budget.

### Objectives:

**Students will:**

- Define gross pay and net pay and calculate net pay
- Identify services offered by financial institutions.
- Explore a bank account application
- Identify parts of a transaction register
- Explain the importance of a savings account
- Explore the differences between checks, debit cards, and credit cards and other forms of electronic payments.
- Explain how money changes hands when a debit card or electronic payment form is used.
- Demonstrate use of a transaction register to record a debit purchase.
- Distinguish between needs and wants
- Create a budget based on monthly income
- Use fixed costs and needs to make budget decisions
- Make shopping decisions based on budget and opportunity cost

### Conceptual Framework

#### Economics

- Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States
- Apply financial literacy principles including money management skill
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity cost

#### Civics

- Identify rights and responsibilities of citizenship, including the practice of responsible citizenship.

### Social Studies Standards

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### Common Core ELA

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## Grade 4

RI.4.1-5, RI.4.7,10 SL.4.3 L.4.4,6

## Grade 5

RI.5.1-5 RI.5.7,10 SL.5.3 L.5.4-6
## Unit 1: Income

Students recognize the fundamental role that income plays in their personal finances and the factors that affect income and take-home pay. They discover how their decisions about education and careers impact their potential income and quality of life.

### Objectives:

**Students will:**
- Rate their interests, abilities, and values.
- Determine work preferences and match them to career choices.
- Define taxes and explain their purpose and impact on income.
- Figure net monthly income.

### Conceptual Framework

#### Economics
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs.

#### Civics
- Identify rights and responsibilities of citizenship, including the practice of responsible citizenship.

### Social Studies Standards

- Grade 6: SL.6.1, L.6.1, L.6.3, L.6.4
- Grade 7: SL.7.1, L.7.1, L.7.3, L.7.4
- Grade 8: SL.8.1, L.8.1, L.8.3, L.8.4
- Grades 9-10: SL.9-10.1, L.9-10.1, L.9-10.4

### Career Preparedness

- Analyze personal skills, interests, and abilities and relate them to current career opportunities.
- Participate in assessments that identify personal areas of interest and aptitude, including utilizing results to develop a four-year high school educational plan.
- Explore individual career options from the 16 National Career Clusters to examine specific job descriptions, requirements, salaries, and employment outlooks.
- Evaluate services and related costs associated with financial institutions in terms of personal banking needs.

### Math

- Grade 6: RP.6.3b, NS.6.2, NS.6.3, NS.6.5, SP.6.1, SP.6.2
- Grade 7: RP.7, R2.b, NS.7.2, NS.7.3, EE.7.1, EE.7.2
- Grade 8: SL.8.1, L.8.1, L.8.3, L.8.4
- Grades 9-10: SL.9-10.1, L.9-10.1, L.9-10.4

## Unit 2: Saving, Investing and Risk Management

Students explore and compare saving and investing options as part of their overall financial planning. They also examine risk and how insurance may help protect savings from both planned and unplanned events.

### Objectives:

**Students will:**
- Identify the benefits of saving a portion of income for future use.
- Explain short- and long-term saving options.
- Explain some of the advantages and disadvantages of various saving and investing options.
- Assess personal risk and risk management.

### Conceptual Framework

#### Economics
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs.
- Apply financial literacy principles including money management skill.
- Analyze factors that reduce the cost of insurance.
- Identify perils that are insurable.
- Evaluate various methods for acquiring goods and making major purchases.
- Distinguish differences between the purpose of saving and the objectives associated with investing.

#### Social Studies Standards

- Grade 6: SL.6.1, L.6.1, L.6.3, L.6.4
- Grade 7: SL.7.1, L.7.1, L.7.3, L.7.4
- Grade 8: SL.8.1, L.8.1, L.8.3, L.8.4
- Grades 9-10: SL.9-10.1, L.9-10.1, L.9-10.4

#### Math

- Grade 6: RP.6.3b, NS.6.2, NS.6.3, NS.6.5, SP.6.1, SP.6.2
- Grade 7: RP.7, R2.b, NS.7.2, NS.7.3, EE.7.1, EE.7.2
- Grade 8: SL.8.1, L.8.1, L.8.3, L.8.4
- Grades 9-10: SL.9-10.1, L.9-10.1, L.9-10.4
## Unit 3: Debit and Credit

Students compare financial institutions and their services. Through discussion and a game activity, they weigh the advantages and disadvantages of debit and credit. Students also examine the role that credit scores and credit reporting have on personal finances.

### Objectives:

**Students will:**
- Define financial institutions and identify the services they provide
- Examine debit and credit cards and their use
- Explain the benefits and common pitfalls of credit cards
- Explain the benefits of debit cards
- Define credit score and describe how it influences the ability to get credit and borrow money

### Conceptual Framework

**Economics**
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs
- Apply financial literacy principles including money management skill
- Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States

### Social Studies Standards

20. Determine advantages and disadvantages of using credit.
   - a. Analyze credit card offerings for the effect on personal finances.
21. Examine why credit ratings and credit reports are important to consumers.
   - a. Explain ways of building and maintaining a good credit score.

### Career Preparedness

**English Language Arts**
- Grade 6
  - SL.6.1
  - SL.6.2
- Grades 9-10
  - L.9-10.1
  - L.9-10.4
- Grades 11-12
  - SL.11-12.1
  - L.11-12.1
  - L.11-12.4

### Math
- Grade 6
  - RP.6.3b
  - NS.6.2
  - NS.6.3
  - NS.6.5
- Grade 7
  - RP.7.R2.b
  - NS.7.3
  - SP.7.5
- Grade 8
  - G.8
  - SP.8.2

## Unit 4: Budget+

Students recognize the importance of spending wisely to achieve financial success and the value of creating and maintaining a budget.

### Objectives:

**Students will:**
- Categorize spending by needs and wants
- Compare teen and adult spending patterns
- Determine which categories belong in a budget
- Relate the need to save money to meet goals
- Prepare a budget using goals and income

### Conceptual Framework

**Economics**
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs
- Apply financial literacy principles including money management skill

15. Develop a plan for managing earning, spending, saving, and giving using spreadsheets, on line resources, or commercial software.
   - a. Create a budget, net worth statement, and income expense statement using a spreadsheet.
16. Evaluate the effect of personal preferences, advertising, marketing, peer pressure, and family history on consumer choices and decision making in the marketplace.
   - a. Compare goods and services to determine best value, including sales tax, tips, coupons, discounts, product quality, and unit pricing.

### Social Studies Standards

- Grade 6
  - RL.6.1
  - SL.6.1
  - L.6.1
  - L.6.3
  - L.6.4
- Grade 7
  - RL.7.1
  - SL.7.1
  - L.7.1
  - L.7.3
  - L.7.4
- Grade 8
  - RL.8.1
  - SL.8.1
  - L.8.1
  - L.8.3
  - L.8.4
- Grades 9-10
  - SL.9-10.1
  - L.9-10.1
  - L.9-10.4

### English Language Arts

- Grade 6
  - RP.6.3b
  - NS.6.2
  - NS.6.3
  - NS.6.5
- Grade 7
  - NS.7.2
  - NS.7.3
  - EE.7.1
  - EE.7.2
- Grade 8
  - G.8
  - SP.8.2
## Unit Description

### Unit 5: Simulation and Debriefing

Students participate in the JA Finance Park simulation. They put into action all they have learned in the classroom by making important spending decisions and maintaining a balanced budget. Following their simulation experience, students participate in a reflective assessment.

### Objectives:

**Students will:**
- Create a family budget using hypothetical life situations
- Make saving and investment decisions
- Reflect on their simulation experience

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Studies Standards</th>
<th>Conceptual Framework</th>
<th>Career Preparedness</th>
<th>Grade 6</th>
<th>Grade 7</th>
<th>Grade 8</th>
<th>Grades 9-10</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>RI.6.1</td>
<td>W.6.1</td>
<td>W.6.4</td>
<td>W.6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs</td>
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<td>W.6.9</td>
<td>W.7.1</td>
<td>W.7.4</td>
<td>W.7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Apply financial literacy principles including money management skill</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States</td>
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<tr>
<td>Civics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>RI.7.1</td>
<td>W.7.1</td>
<td>W.7.4</td>
<td>W.8.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Identify rights and responsibilities of citizenship, including the practice of responsible citizenship.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>W.8.9</td>
<td>W.8.4</td>
<td>W.8.9</td>
<td>W.9-10-9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15. Develop a plan for managing earning, spending, saving, and giving using spreadsheets, on line resources, or commercial software. a. Create a budget, net worth statement, and income expense statement using a spreadsheet
### Unit 1: Income

Students recognize the fundamental role of income in their personal finances and the factors that affect income and take-home pay. Through Project-Based Learning (PBL), students understand how the decisions they make about education and careers have an impact on their potential income and quality of life.

**Objectives:**

**Students will:**

- Tell the difference between abilities, interests, work preferences, and values
- Identify career interests and goals as a way to earn future income
- Define taxes and explain their purpose and impact on income
- Interpret sources of income (salaries and wages, interest, profit for business owners, etc.)
- Calculate NMI (net monthly income) income tax (including state income tax), Social Security, and Medicare

#### Conceptual Framework

**Economics**

- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs

**Civics**

- Identify rights and responsibilities of citizenship, including the practice of responsible citizenship.

#### Common Core

- **ELA**
  - 3. Analyze personal skills, interests, and abilities and relate them to current career opportunities.
    - a. Participate in assessments that identify personal areas of interest and aptitude, including utilizing results to develop a four-year high school educational plan.
  - b. Explore individual career options from the 16 National Career Clusters to examine specific job descriptions, requirements, salaries, and employment outlooks.
  - 18. Analyze various types of financial institutions.
    - a. Evaluate services and related costs associated with financial institutions in terms of personal banking needs

- **Math**
  - Mathematical Practices
    - 1-2
    - 4-7

### Unit 2: Saving, Investing and Risk Management

Students explore savings and compare investments as part of their overall financial planning. They also examine risk and how insurance may help protect savings from both planned and unplanned events.

**Objectives:**

**Students will:**

- Identify the benefits of saving a portion of income for future use
- Explain short- and long-term saving options
- Explain some of the advantages and disadvantages of savings options and investment vehicles
- Assess personal risk and risk management

#### Conceptual Framework

**Economics**

- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs
- Apply financial literacy principles including money management skill

**Economics Grade 12**

- Explain how rational decision-making entails comparing additional costs of alternatives to additional benefits

- 22. Determine the type of insurance associated with different types of risks, including automobile, personal and professional liability, home, apartment, property, health, life, long-term care, and disability.
  - a. Analyze factors that reduce the cost of insurance.
  - b. Identify perils that are insurable.
- 17. Distinguish differences between the purpose of saving and the objectives associated with investing.
  - a. Explain how using the principles of compound interest and the Rule of 72 in investing builds wealth to meet financial goals.

#### Common Core

- **ELA**
  - Grades 9-10
    - RI .9–10.4
    - W. 9-10. 1, 4
    - SL. 9-10. 1
    - L. 9-10. 1, 4
  - Grades 11-12
    - RI 11/12. 4
    - W. 11/12. 1, 4
    - SL. 11/12. 1
    - L. 11/12. 1, 4

- **Math**
  - Mathematical Practices
    - 1-7
## Unit 3: Debit and Credit

**Students compare financial institutions and their services; examine the value of credit scores; and interpret the effect of creditworthiness.**

### Objectives:
**Students will:**
- Describe the types of financial institutions and the services they provide
- Explain debit and credit cards and their uses
- Identify the advantages and disadvantages related to credit and debit cards
- Give examples of the best ways to build credit
- Demonstrate why credit scores are important

### Conceptual Framework
**Economics**
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs
- Apply financial literacy principles including money management skill
- Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States

### Common Core ELA
- Grades 9-10
  - SL. 9-10.1,4
  - L.9-10.1,4
- Grades 11-12
  - SL11-12.1,4
  - L.11-12.1,4

### Math
- Mathematical Practices
  - Grades 9-10
    - 1-2
    - 5-7
  - Grades 11-12
    - 11-12.1,4
    - L.11-12.1,4

## Unit 4: Budget+

**This unit provides an opportunity for students to set financial goals, experience budgeting, and compare sample budgets before they are confronted with the financial responsibilities of being and adult. Lessons focus on classifying income and expenses and staying with a plan. In each of the PBL lessons, integration of technology is required. During the final lesson, students explain the value of planning their spending and maintaining a balanced budget.**

### Objectives:
**Students will:**
- Categorize spending by needs and wants
- Determine which categories belong in a budget
- Distinguish between different kinds of budgets
- Prepare a budget using goals and income

### Conceptual Framework
**Economics**
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs
- Apply financial literacy principles including money management skill

**Economics Grade 12**
Explain how rational decision-making entails comparing additional costs of alternatives to additional benefits

### Common Core ELA
- Grades 9-10
  - RI .9–10.1
  - SL. 9-10.1
  - L.9-10.1,4
- Grades 11-12
  - RI .11-12.1
  - SL11-12.1
  - L.11-12.1,4

### Math
- Mathematical Practices
  - Grades 9-10
    - 1-7
  - Grades 11-12
    - 11-12.1,4
    - L.11-12.1,4
### Unit Description

#### Unit 5: Simulation and Debriefing

Students participate in the JA Finance Park simulation. They put into action all they have learned in the classroom by making important spending decisions and maintaining a balanced budget. Students then use the knowledge and skills gained from the JA Finance Park lessons to create a portfolio and presentation that answer the following driving question: What do I need to do today to accomplish what I want in the future?

#### Objectives:

**Students will:**

- Create a family budget using hypothetical life situations
- Make saving and investment decisions
- Demonstrate understanding of the importance of making smart financial decisions now that will last throughout their lifetimes
- Articulate thoughts and ideas effectively using oral, written, and nonverbal communication skills in a variety of forms and contexts
- Demonstrate originality and creativity
- Build confidence, self-esteem, and teamwork skills

### Social Studies Standards

#### Conceptual Framework

**Economics**

- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs
- Apply financial literacy principles including money management skill
- Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States

**Civics**

- Identify rights and responsibilities of citizenship, including the practice of responsible citizenship.

#### Economics Grade 12

Explain how rational decision-making entails comparing additional costs of alternatives to additional benefits

### Career Preparedness

15. Develop a plan for managing earning, spending, saving, and giving using spreadsheets, on line resources, or commercial software. a. Create a budget, net worth statement, and income expense statement using a spreadsheet.

### Common Core ELA

Grades 9-10

RI.9–10.1,4,8
W. 9-10. 1
W. 9-10.4-9
SL. 9-10. 1
SL.9-10.4-6
L.9-10. 1-6

Grades 11-12

RI.11-12.1,4,8
W.11-12.1
W. 11-12.4-9
SL.11-12. 1
SL.11-12.4-6
L.11-12. 1-6

### Math

Mathematical Practices

1-7
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Unit Description</strong></th>
<th><strong>Social Studies Standards</strong></th>
<th><strong>Career Preparedness</strong></th>
<th><strong>English Language Arts</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Theme 1: Employment and Income</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Foundation 1 Career Cluster</strong>&lt;br&gt;Students learn about the 16 career clusters and how their own interests and skills can help them determine a career pathway</td>
<td><strong>Conceptual Framework</strong>&lt;br&gt;Economics&lt;br&gt;• Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs;</td>
<td>3. Analyze personal skills, interests, and abilities and relate them to current career opportunities.&lt;br&gt;b. Explore individual career options from the 16 National Career Clusters to examine specific job descriptions, requirements, salaries, and employment outlooks.</td>
<td>RI.9-10. 1,4&lt;br&gt;W.9-10. 2,4,6,7,8&lt;br&gt;SL 9-10. 1,2,4,5,6&lt;br&gt;L 9-10. 1-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students will:</td>
<td><strong>Conceptual Framework</strong>&lt;br&gt;Economics&lt;br&gt;• Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs;</td>
<td>4. c. Calculate net pay from a given gross salary by subtracting required and non-required deductions.&lt;br&gt;15.c. Identify types of income other than wages, including rent, interest, and profit earned from various resources.</td>
<td>Grades 9-10&lt;br&gt;9-10.RV.1&lt;br&gt;9-10.RV.3.2&lt;br&gt;9-10.SL.1&lt;br&gt;Grades 11-12&lt;br&gt;11-12.RV.1&lt;br&gt;11-12.RV.3.2&lt;br&gt;11-12.SL.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Examine careers and corresponding career clusters.&lt;br&gt;• Apply interests and skills to specific career clusters.&lt;br&gt;• Research possible careers within a chosen career cluster.&lt;br&gt;• Analyze how interests and skills may relate to a specific career cluster.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Theme 1 Foundation 2 Net Income</strong>&lt;br&gt;Students learn the difference between gross pay and net pay and understand the various taxes and other deductions withheld from a paycheck.</td>
<td><strong>Conceptual Framework</strong>&lt;br&gt;Economics&lt;br&gt;• Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs;&lt;br&gt;• Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States;&lt;br&gt;• Apply financial literacy principles, including money management skills;</td>
<td>4. c. Calculate net pay from a given gross salary by subtracting required and non-required deductions.&lt;br&gt;15.c. Identify types of income other than wages, including rent, interest, and profit earned from various resources.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Objectives:</strong>&lt;br&gt;The students will:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Identify the difference between gross pay and net pay.&lt;br&gt;• Identify the components on an earnings statement (pay stub) that affect net income.&lt;br&gt;• Calculate net monthly income after removing taxes, benefits, and other deductions.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Objectives:</strong>&lt;br&gt;The students will:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Theme 2: Employment and Education
### The Value of Education
Students learn about the time commitments, costs and benefits of post-secondary education options. Then they compete to find four occupations from the Occupational Outlook Handbook with the highest return on investment.

**Objectives:**

**Students will:**
- Identify the benefits of postsecondary education, including trade schools and military service.
- Identify the income projection for a variety of careers.
- Calculate the return on the educational investment for different occupations.

### Conceptual Framework

#### Economics
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs;

#### RI.9-10. 1,4
SL 9-10. 1,2,4,5,6
L 9-10. 1-6

### Theme 3: Financial Responsibility and Decision Making
### Financial Decision Making
Students learn a process for making decisions and recognize the responsibilities associated with personal financial decisions.

**Objectives:**

**Students will:**
- Use rational and considered decision-making steps to select financial goals and priorities.
- Explain how decisions made today can impact the future.

### Conceptual Framework

#### Economics
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs;
- Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States;
- Apply financial literacy principles, including money management skills;

#### Economics Grade 12
- Explain how rational decision-making entails comparing additional costs of alternatives to additional benefits

#### RI.9-10. 1,4
W.9-10. 1,4
SL 9-10. 1,2,5
L 9-10. 1-6

#### RI.11-12. 1,4
W.11-12. 1,4
SL 9-10. 1,2,5
L 11-12. 1-6

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### Theme 4: Planning and Money Management

**Next-Level Budgeting**

Students explore the differences between needs and wants, and then learn about the parts of a budget and the importance of budgeting.

**Objectives:**

Students will:
- Recognize some of the reasons why people might spend more than they earn.
- Identify and use parts of a budget.
- List the long-term effects of overspending.

**Conceptual Framework**

**Economics**
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs;
- Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States;
- Apply financial literacy principles, including money management skills;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career Preparedness</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15. Develop a plan for managing earning, spending, saving, and giving using spreadsheets, on line resources, or commercial software. a. Create a budget, net worth statement, and income expense statement using a spreadsheet.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**English Language Arts**

| RI.9-10 1,4 |
| SL 9-10 1,2 |
| L 9-10 1-6 |

### Theme 5: Risk Management and Insurance

**Insurance**

Students analyze the conditions under which it is appropriate for young adults to have life, health, and disability insurance.

**Objectives:**

Students will:
- Recognize strategies for managing risk.
- List the benefits of having insurance for risk management.
- Identify conditions under which it is appropriate for young adults to have life, health, and disability insurance.
- Compare insurance policies.

**Conceptual Framework**

**Economics**
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs;
- Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States;
- Apply financial literacy principles, including money management skills;

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22. Determine the type of insurance associated with different types of risks, including automobile, personal and professional liability, home, apartment, property, health, life, long-term care, and disability</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**English Language Arts**

| RI.9-10 1,4 |
| W.9-10 1,2,4,6,7,8 |
| SL 9-10 1,2,4,5 |
| L 9-10 1-6 |

### Theme 6: Investing

**Investing for the Future**

Students learn about different types of investments and collaborate to build a diversified investment portfolio.

**Objectives:**

Students will:
- Recognize different investment options.
- Compare the benefits and risks of various investment options.
- Create a diversified investment portfolio that maximizes profit.

**Conceptual Framework**

**Economics**
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs;
- Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States;
- Apply financial literacy principles, including money management skills;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17.b. Evaluate various ways to buy and sell investments, including mutual funds, exchangetraded funds (ETFs), stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit (CDs), real estate, and commodities.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**English Language Arts**

| RI.9-10 1,4 |
| W.9-10 1,8 |
| SL 9-10 1,2,5 |
| L 9-10 1-6 |

| RI.11-12 1,4 |
| W.11-12 1,8 |
| SL 9-10 1,2,5 |
| L 11-12 1-6 |
### Theme 7: Simulation and Debrief

Students participate in the JA Finance Park simulation then reflect on the activities they participated in during the simulation and engage in an activity to connect their learnings and takeaways from the JA Finance Park simulation to their future career and money management goals.

#### Objectives:

**Students will:**
- Identify key learnings from the JA Finance Park simulation.
- Analyze and apply lessons learned to future career and money management goals.

#### Conceptual Framework

**Economics**
- Understand the free enterprise system, the American economy, and differing economic views, including the roles of entrepreneurs and the government;
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs;
- Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States;
- Apply financial literacy principles, including money management skills;

#### Social Studies Standards

- 2. Understand the effect of workplace behaviors.
  - a. Examine appropriate workplace behaviors, including attitude, work ethic, responsibility, dependability, punctuality, integrity, time management, effort, adherence to dress code, communication (written, verbal, and nonverbal), teamwork, and other workplace etiquette.

#### Career Preparedness

- RI.9-10 1,4
- W.9-10 1,2,4,6,7,8
- SL.9-10 1,2,4,5,6
- L.9-10 1-6

#### English Language Arts

- RI.11-12 1,4
- W.11-12 1,2,4,6,7,8
- SL.9-10 1,2,4,5,6
- L.11-12 1-6
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extension Details</th>
<th>Extension Objectives</th>
<th>Social Studies Standards</th>
<th>Career Preparedness Standards</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Theme One: Employment and Income</strong></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Entrepreneurial Strengths and Talents** | Students are introduced to entrepreneurial characteristics and how they help in business. They take a self-assessment and create a plan to improve their entrepreneurial skills. | Students will:  
  - Identify the characteristics of a successful entrepreneur.  
  - Examine personal entrepreneurial qualifications and characteristics.  
  - Develop a plan for building entrepreneurial skills. | Conceptual Framework  
Economics  
- Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States; | NA |
| **Job Loss** | Students are introduced to factors that can lead to job loss. They learn which professions are likely to be more affected by specific factors and compare two worker scenarios. Students see how being prepared can help minimize job loss stress and they sketch out a plan to prepare for a possible job loss. | Students will:  
  - Recognize factors that can lead to job loss, including economic downturns (layoffs, natural disasters, foreclosure), globalization, and automation.  
  - Develop a plan for preparing for job loss.  
  - Identify professional development and job retraining opportunities to help when job loss happens. | Conceptual Framework  
Economics  
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs; | 2. b. Identify inappropriate workplace behaviors, including violence and sexual harassment and procedures for addressing such behaviors. |
| **My Work Values and Responsibilities** | Students compare two employees to see the importance of soft skills and strong work ethic, and then they learn why work ethic is important to employers. They are challenged to make ethical decisions in the workplace, and they also draft answers to mock interview questions addressing their work ethic. | Students will:  
  - Recognize the importance of having a good work ethic and making good choices, including ethical decisions, in the workplace.  
  - Explain why certain decisions made at work, such as taking excessive sick days, having unexcused absences, or arriving late, have negative consequences. | NA | 2. Understand the effect of workplace behaviors.  
a. Examine appropriate workplace behaviors, including attitude, work ethic, responsibility, dependability, punctuality, integrity, time management, effort, adherence to dress code, communication (written, verbal, and nonverbal), teamwork, and other workplace etiquette.  
b. Identify inappropriate workplace behaviors, including violence and sexual harassment and procedures for addressing such behaviors |
## The IRS W-4 Form

Students learn about the process of withholding money for taxes on their paychecks. They can use a tax estimator to determine how much income to withhold for taxes, discover where their tax dollars are spent, and are introduced to tax exemptions. Students use the IRS website to locate the W-4 form and answer some specific questions.

**Students will:**
- Explain the purpose of the W-4 form.
- Examine the employee sections of the W-4 form.

**Conceptual Framework**

**Economics**
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs;

**Career Preparedness**
- 6. Examine the employment process, including searching for a job, filling out a job application, writing a resume, developing and practicing interview skills, and completing required employment forms (e.g., W-4, I-9).

## Applying for Financial Aid with FAFSA

Students learn how to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form to apply for financial aid for college.

**Students will:**
- Explain the rationale for completing the FAFSA form.
- Identify the resources and information required for the FAFSA form.
- Develop an action plan for completing the FAFSA form.

**Conceptual Framework**

**Economics**
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs;

**Career Preparedness**
- 5. Investigate the postsecondary/higher education admissions process, including completing admission and financial aid applications (e.g., Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), grants, loans, scholarships, personal financing).

## Career Decisions

Students create a plan based on their interests and talents and learn how to set goals to help them achieve that plan.

**Students will:**
- Use a process to develop a career plan.
- Identify career choices that match interests and abilities.
- Develop a SMART goal to help achieve a chosen career.

**Conceptual Framework**

**Economics**
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs;

**Career Preparedness**
- 1. Demonstrate knowledge of a systematic approach to a decision-making process (specifically, opportunity costs and trade-offs), including factors regarding academic planning and career development, financial literacy, and technology.
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grades Count!</strong></td>
<td>Students will:</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>13. Utilize an online learning-management system to engage in collaborative learning projects, discussions, and assessments beyond the traditional classroom that are goal-oriented, focused, project-based, and inquiry-oriented.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Students consider the consequence of grades and other factors and their effects on college options and scholarships. | ▪ Reflect on their current GPA and course selections in light of key factors that influence college admissions.  
▪ Calculate a possible GPA based on potential new courses.  
▪ List the positive steps they can take to be successful with potential new courses |                                                        |                                                                                                                                            |
| **Interpreting a Financial Aid Award Letter** | Students will:                                                                       | NA                       | 5. Investigate the postsecondary/higher education admissions process, including completing admission and financial aid applications (e.g., Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), grants, loans, scholarships, personal financing). |
| Students learn how to interpret a financial aid award letter and negotiate for more aid | ▪ Recognize the options available upon receiving a financial aid award letter.  
▪ Analyze the parts of a financial aid award letter.  
▪ Identify effective strategies for negotiating additional financial aid. |                                                        |                                                                                                                                            |
| **Paying for Postsecondary Education**        | Students will:                                                                       | Conceptual Framework     | 5. Investigate the postsecondary/higher education admissions process, including completing admission and financial aid applications (e.g., Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), grants, loans, scholarships, personal financing). |
| Students explore how to pay for postsecondary education, a major financial decision that will impact their finances for years to come. | ▪ Identify a savings goal and plan.  
▪ Contrast grants and scholarships with student loans.  
▪ Explain the responsibilities associated with student loan debt. | Economics                |                                                                                                                                            |
### Theme Three: Financial Responsibility and Decision Making

#### Buying Your First Car
Students learn to be smart consumers when purchasing a new or used car.

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| **Students will:** | - Compare benefits of buying and leasing a car.  
- Identify costs associated with buying and owning a car.  
- Explain benefits of buying new and used cars.  
- Analyze costs and features of several vehicles to identify the best car for one’s needs. | **Conceptual Framework**  
- **Economics**  
  - Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs;  
  - Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States;  
  - Apply financial literacy principles, including money management skills; | 15.d. Evaluate various methods for acquiring goods and making major purchases. |

#### Cost of Living
Students consider the differences in cost of living and median wage in different areas of the United States.

| Students will: | - Compare cost of living in different states.  
- Discover the different median wage for different states and occupations.  
- Make a four-step plan for the future. | **Conceptual Framework**  
- **Economics**  
  - Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs;  
  - Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States;  
  - Apply financial literacy principles, including money management skills; | 4. Evaluate various methods for acquiring goods and making major purchases. |

#### My Financial Future and Debt
Students learn how to use credit responsibly, why they should keep debt low, and why credit scores matter.

| Students will: | - Recognize the effects of late or missed payments.  
- Explain the effect of debts on a person’s net worth.  
- Distinguish between good use and misuse of credit cards. | **Conceptual Framework**  
- **Economics**  
  - Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs;  
  - Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States;  
  - Apply financial literacy principles, including money management skills; | 20. Determine advantages and disadvantages of using credit. a. Analyze credit card offerings for the effect on personal finances.  
21. Examine why credit ratings and credit reports are important to consumers. a. Explain ways of building and maintaining a good credit score. |

#### Philanthropy
Students consider the emotional, social, and financial benefits of charitable giving as part of creating a personal financial plan.

| Students will: | - Explain the difference between philanthropy and charity.  
- Express how society benefits when others donate money for worthy causes.  
- Evaluate how philanthropy fits within a personal financial plan.  
- Clarify how charitable giving may have tax benefits. | **Conceptual Framework**  
- **Economics**  
  - Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States;  
  - Apply financial literacy principles, including money management skills; | NA |
### Planning for Financial Success

**Extension Objective:** Students will:
- Recognize the steps for financial goal planning.
- Identify a financial goal and develop a plan to reach it.

**Social Studies Standards:**
- Conceptual Framework
  - Economics: Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs;

**Career Preparedness:**
- c. Identify types of income other than wages, including rent, interest, and profit earned from various resources.

**Extension Details:**
Students use critical thinking skills and design to communicate the benefits of financial goal planning.

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### Sales and Property Taxes

**Extension Objective:** Students will:
- Explain what taxes are used for.
- Recognize different types of taxes.
- Analyze the impact of taxes on financial decisions, such as buying a car or a home.

**Social Studies Standards:**
- Conceptual Framework
  - Economics: Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs;

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### Theme Four: Planning and Money Management

#### A World Without Cash

**Extension Objective:** Students will:
- Explore different payment types, and classify the pros and cons of using payment apps.
- Analyze how to use a payment app to manage spending.

**Social Studies Standards:**
- Conceptual Framework
  - Economics:
    - Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs;
    - Apply financial literacy principles, including money management skills;

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#### Extracurricular Expenses

**Extension Objective:** Students will:
- Outline a short-term financial goal for how to save for extracurricular expenses.
- Generate a personal budget to achieve the goal.

**Social Studies Standards:**
- Conceptual Framework
  - Economics:
    - Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs;

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#### Unexpected Expenses

**Extension Objective:** Students will:
- Evaluate if an emergency fund should be used for different emergency scenarios.
- Create an emergency fund savings plan for an emergency.
- Analyze how saving for an emergency fund can impact a monthly budget.

**Social Studies Standards:**
- Conceptual Framework
  - Economics:
    - Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States;
    - Apply financial literacy principles, including money management skills;

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</table>
| **Auto Insurance** | Students will:  
- Differentiate among the main types of auto insurance coverage.  
- Identify ways to mitigate risk to help keep auto insurance costs down. | Conceptual Framework  
**Economics**  
- Understand roles of consumers and producers in the market economy of the United States;  
- Apply financial literacy principles, including money management skills; | NA |
| Students learn about different types of auto insurance policies and what each cover. They explore the costs of insurance, including premiums and deductibles, and learn strategies for keeping auto insurance costs low. | | | |
| **Mortgages** | Students will:  
- Explain the expenses associated with taking out a mortgage.  
- Differentiate among different types of mortgages. | Conceptual Framework  
**Economics**  
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs; | 15.d. Evaluate various methods for acquiring goods and making major purchases. |
| Students learn the basics about mortgages, including what a mortgage payment consists of and the initial expenses for obtaining a mortgage. They explore different types of mortgages and compare fixed-rate, adjustable-rate, and balloon mortgages. | | | |
| **Theme 6: Investing** | | | |
| **Purchasing Stocks** | Students will:  
- Recognize basic principles of investing in stocks.  
- Identify factors that affect stocks and the stock market.  
- List strategies for smart investing. | Conceptual Framework  
**Economics**  
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs; | 15.d. Evaluate various methods for acquiring goods and making major purchases. |
| Students learn the basics of stock market investing, compare factors that impact the market, read and respond to scenarios about investing, and are introduced to three investing strategies. | | | |
| **Investing for Retirement** | Students will:  
- Explain the benefits of funding retirement early.  
- Compare features and benefits of retirement plans, including 401(k)s and IRAs. | Conceptual Framework  
**Economics**  
- Understand concepts of money, personal finance, and opportunity costs; | 17. Distinguish differences between the purpose of saving and the objectives associated with investing. |
| Students learn the importance of starting to save for retirement early, the need to save for retirement consistently throughout one’s working life, and the impact of failing to fund one’s retirement. It also explores company-sponsored retirement plans, such as 401(k) accounts, and both traditional and Roth individual retirement accounts (IRAs). | | | |