

JA Explore Your Path

JA Explore Your Path is designed to spark the interest of 9th and 10th grade students in careers and educational and employment opportunities. During this program, students will work to explore career paths and things to consider as they enter the workforce. JA Explore Your Path consists of four sessions designed for 45-minute class periods. Session 1 is educator-led and Sessions 2 through 4 are volunteer-led. See below for program description and objectives.

Program Overview

Session 1: JA Here to Career (educator-led)

Students are introduced to JA Here to Career in order to complete a Career Interest Survey that will match their interests and abilities to career, education, and employment opportunities.

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Assess their personal interests
- Analyze the results of a career survey to identify top career choices
- Examine top career choices and identify educational and career paths
- Reflect on the results in order to set goals

Session 2: Essential Skills

Students are introduced to essential skills (aka soft skills). They will complete an Essential Skills Self-Assessment, followed by discussions regarding essential skills scenarios.

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Define and identify key essential skills and their importance in the workplace
- Reflect on their own essential skill strengths and areas for improvement
- Analyze essential skill scenarios

Session 3: Work Priorities

Students learn about the importance of being prepared and adaptable in an ever changing workplace. Students will explore which of their priorities are most important to them as they prepare for their future careers.

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Recognize the importance of being focused, proactive, and adaptable when exploring careers
- Rank work environment priorities as an anchor for future career planning decisions

Session 4: Collaboration and Teamwork in the Workplace

Students learn the importance of collaboration and communication in the workplace.

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Demonstrate collaboration with team members to accomplish work-based challenges
- Recognize the importance of quality communication while working in a team
- Recognize the components of a high-performance team