



Junior Achievement is the global leader in providing cutting-edge, hands-on financial literacy, workforce readiness and entrepreneurship



education. We provide real-world learning opportunities to help young people become self-reliant, thriving members of our community.





“JA teaches us real-life skills that set us up for the real world. I am excited for my future!”

*Elizabeth, age 17
Cristo Rey High School*

JA is the world’s largest organization dedicated to empowering young people to own their economic success.

Volunteers Bring JA to Life

Imagine the excitement of a high school student who discovers his career path while on a JA job shadow day... the spark of a first-grader who learns about needs vs. wants, and begins saving for a family vacation... or, the hope of a homeless teen who applies for her first job with guidance from a JA mentor. These are just a handful of the students who have been inspired by Junior Achievement of Sacramento.

Junior Achievement is an innovative partnership between the business community, educators and volunteers. We teach financial literacy, workforce readiness and entrepreneurship. Every year, about 10,000 students in our community participate in JA. Our programs are offered in kindergarten through high school, as well as in non-traditional settings, like after-school clubs, homeless shelters and foster programs. We have been serving our community’s young people since 1961.

Volunteers play a key role in bringing Junior Achievement to life. By sharing their personal and professional experience, they help students make the connection between what they are learning in school and what they will need to succeed in work and life – and that’s important. Numerous studies have found that when students don’t see the relevance of what they are learning, they are more likely to drop out of school.

Every year, an army of 400 or more JA volunteers fan out into our community to inspire and educate young people. They are teaching everything from finance to careers. It is experiential, hands-on curriculum where students learn by doing.



“Teens have a vested interest in money. Now is the time to teach responsible spending, saving and wise use of credit. JA programs give young people a hands-on, interactive learning experience. The program can and does make a difference for our youth.”

*Kathleen Harless, JA classroom volunteer
AVP, Operations, Training & High Schools
SAFE Credit Union*



Confidence, Competence and Character

Our programs work. JA students are more likely to complete high school, be employed and enroll in college than other same-age students. They also have a heightened sense of community commitment.

Schools in our community look to Junior Achievement of Sacramento to provide supplemental learning experiences that help young people develop the confidence, competence and character to make smart academic and economic decisions. We reach thousands of students every year, and the demand for our program has never been greater.

Young people are our community's future. At Junior Achievement of Sacramento, we are giving students the skills and motivation they need to succeed on their own and contribute to the economic health of our region in the future. We are building a stronger community, one student at a time.

Hands-On Learning

JA programs consist of 5-12 sessions per class. Trained volunteers infuse their own real-world examples into the JA curriculum. Lessons are designed to empower students to feel and be in control of their destinies.

Sample lessons include:

- **The Savvy Shopper** – learning the ins and outs of cash vs. credit
- **The Case of the Missing Identity** – exploring the consequences of identity theft
- **The Occupation Game** – trying on various jobs with different salaries
- **The Balance, Break-even or Broke Game** – wrestling with needs vs. wants in preparing a monthly budget
- **The Choose Your Success Exercise** – translating dreams into action plans
- **Mock Interviews** – practicing how to showcase their strengths to a potential employer

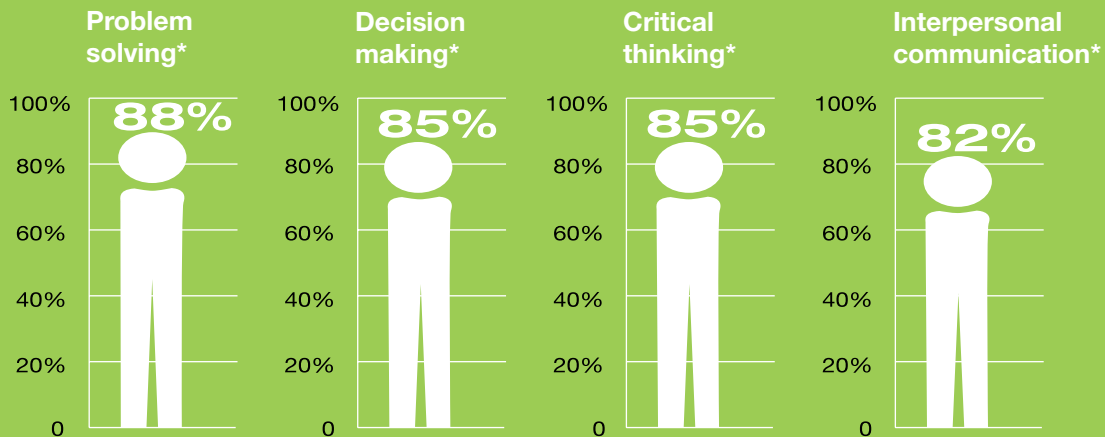
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“Junior Achievement has opened each child’s mind to the incredible power each person holds to control his or her own personal economic success. Volunteers inspire our students to think differently about the skills they often dismiss as ‘school’ work. Students begin to understand the important role these skills have and their connection to the outside world.”

*Michael Reed, JA program recipient
Principal, Regency Park Elementary School*

JA alumni gained strength in these skills



* Survey responses measuring "agreement" or "strong agreement" to statements about JA impact.

By focusing on education, economic and youth development, JA programs contribute to the vitality of our community and the availability of a well-educated workforce.



"JA's vision is to prepare our future leaders for an ever changing world. You can no longer be complacent and think things will fall into place. You have to put in the work. I love it when I see the light go on in a child's eyes when I am teaching a class. They are engaged and look to what they can accomplish today and in the future. I volunteer for Junior Achievement because I know the program works."

*Bob Daly, JA board member & classroom volunteer
Financial Network Investment Corp.*



Junior Achievement®
of Sacramento

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