A Correlation:

NEW JERSEY Academic Standards and Junior Achievement Middle School Programs



Updated (2022)
Academic Standards
Common Core State Standards Included

Junior Achievement USA®
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Overview

Junior Achievement programs offer a multidisciplinary approach that connects learning across social studies disciplines, such as economics, geography, history, government, and civics, while incorporating mathematical concepts and reasoning and language arts skills. This list is not meant to be exhaustive or intended to suggest that a JA program will completely address any given standard but is designed to show how it can enhance or complement efforts to do so. The flexibility of the programs and supplementary materials allow specific content or skills to be addressed in depth by the teacher and/or business volunteer as needed.

In this document, Junior Achievement programs are correlated to the New Jersey Social Studies Standards as well as the Common Core State Standards in English/ Language Arts and Mathematics. 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 Middle Grades Programs

JA Company Program® Pop Up teaches students how to plan, launch, and operate their own business venture within a structured, guided experience. Throughout the start-up process, students collaborate, make crucial business decisions, practice communication skills, and develop entrepreneurial knowledge and skills. (Grades 6-12)

JA Economics for Success® provides practical information about personal finance and the importance of identifying education and career goals based on a student's skills, interests, and values.

JA Economics for Success® Blended Model introduces middle school students to initial work and career readiness and personal finance concepts through flexible facilitation materials and engaging interactive activities, games, and role plays that support learning objectives.

JA Global Marketplace® Blended Model introduces students to the global marketplace and the ways in which countries buy and sell from each other. Through completion of this program, students will gain an understanding of the role of producers and consumers in the interconnected global market.

JA It's My Business® Blended Model provides middle school students an opportunity to experience the initial steps necessary to start a business. New program content provides an authentic entrepreneurial experience for students, with each session building up to a product-pitch competition

JA It's My Future® Blended Model offers middle school students' practical information to help prepare them for the working world. Students develop the personal-branding and job-hunting skills needed to earn a job.

JA Inspire™ is more than a career fair, it brings together the business community and local schools and is designed to help launch middle school students into their futures: high school, college, and careers beyond. (Grades 6-8)

JA Career Exploration Fair™ is an event where students learn about a range of career options across multiple career clusters. (Grades K-12

JA Career Speakers Series™ In JA Career Speakers Series, a volunteer guest speaker visits the classroom and shares information about his or her career, work, and education experience. (Grades K-12)

JA Excellence through Ethics™ Through JA Excellence through Ethics, students will learn the importance of ethics and ethical decision-making and how ethical and unethical choices affect everyone in a community. (Grades 6-12)

JA It's My Job™ (Soft Skills) will help students understand the value of professional communication and soft skills, making them more employable to future employers across multiple career clusters. (Grades 6-12)

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JA Inspire

Session Descriptions	Academic Standards	Other Standards	Common Core ELA
Session One: Career Planning Starts with You Through close examination of specific skills and career clusters, students learn the key factors to investigate career planning, skills, interests, work priorities, and job outlooks. **Objectives:** **Students will:** ▪ Recognize career clusters that match their skills and interests. ▪ Assess their soft skills and identify need for improvement. ▪ Identify industries and jobs that offer opportunities.			**Reading for Informational Text** RI 1 RI 4 RI 7 **Speaking and Listening** SL 1 SL 2 **Language** L 3 L 4 L 6
Session Two: Making the Most of JA Inspire In this session, students refine a plan for the event. If possible, encourage students to spend additional time outside of class researching the participating companies. **Objectives:** **Students will:** ▪ Identify companies that they want to learn more about at the JA Inspire event. Three is a good number. ▪ Prepare questions that they want to ask and practice asking them. ▪ Create an elevator pitch—a statement that explains why they are interested in a company or a job and what they have to offer and helps to connect them with the company volunteers. ▪ Express their expectations of the upcoming event.			**Speaking and Listening** SL 1 SL 2 **Writing** W 4 W 7 W 8 **Language** L 3 L 4 L 6

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JA Inspire

Session Descriptions	Academic Standards	Other Standards	Common Core ELA
Session Three: JA Inspire Event During the JA Inspire expo, students participate in hands-on activities, often using equipment or tools used on a job. **Objectives:** **Students will:** ▪ Make connections with adults who have jobs in careers that interest them. ▪ See the connection between high school programming choices and careers. ▪ Collect information about the education required to be successful in a job. ▪ Practice soft skills.			**Reading for Informational Text** RI 1 RI 4 RI 7 **Speaking and Listening** SL 1 SL 2 **Language** L 3 L 4 L 6
Session Four: Debrief and Next Steps Students reflect on what they have learned and identify next steps to further define their academic choices and career path. They also compose a thank you note to a chosen company. **Objectives:** **Students will:** ▪ Evaluate personal goals and priorities based on their experience at the JA Inspire event. ▪ Identify next steps, including exploration of high school coursework and other research. ▪ Understand relevant business communication practices.			**Reading for Informational Text** RI 1 RI 4 RI 7 **Speaking and Listening** SL 1 SL 2 **Writing** W 3 W 4 W 5 **Language** L 3 L 4 L 6

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