

JA Ourselves

Program Overview

JA Ourselves introduces kindergarten students to the intersection of **financial literacy** and early elementary grades social studies learning objectives. Through hands-on classroom activities, the program provides students with an introduction to personal economics and the choices consumers make to meet their needs and wants. It also introduces students to the role of money in society while providing them with practical information about earning, saving, and sharing money. *JA Ourselves* is volunteer-taught and kit-based. There are five 30-minute sessions with additional extended learning activities offered throughout.



Session	Overview	Objective/Goals	Activities/Components
SESSION ONE This or That? Make a Choice	Students practice Social economics by making personal choices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify personal interests. Consider the factors that determine their choices. Define money. 	Students make choices with the help of This or That? Picture Cards. Students read a simple prompt in their Junior Journal Mini books and make a choice. Students are able write a sentence about their choice
SESSION TWO Do I Need What I Want?	Students recognise that people have basic needs and wants and that money-smart people know the difference between them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain the difference between needs and wants. Create a simple chart. 	Students participate in a story reading activity to help them find need and want items on a poster. Using stickers, students create a need and wants chart in their mini books.
SESSION THREE A Penny Earned	Students are introduced to storybook characters and examine ways they can earn money.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the role of money in society. Identify jobs they can do to earn money. 	Students hear the story <i>Welcome Home!</i> to learn about ways they can earn money. Using their mini books, students complete a maze and draw a picture of how they can earn money.
SESSION FOUR A Penny Saved	Students are introduced to the concept of saving.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain the importance of saving money. Identify a savings goal. Identify a place where people save money. 	Students perform finger plays that help them remember to save. Students separate into groups to complete a fill-in-the-piggy-bank activity in their minibooks.
SESSION FIVE A Penny Shared	Students are introduced to storybook characters and their plans to earn money for a worthy cause.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain the importance of giving. Organize a chronological sequence of events. 	Students hear <i>Charlie Plants a Garden</i> , a story about starting a neighborhood garden. They organize story cards sequentially in their mini books.

Concepts: Buying, choices, costs, earning, giving, goals, goods and services, interests, money, needs and wants, saving, society, spending, values

Skills: Counting, decision making, drawing conclusions, following directions, graphing and graph interpretation, listening, matching and classifying, predicting, problem solving, reading and writing, self-assessment, sequencing, teamwork, verbal communication, vocabulary building