

LEARNING EXPERIENCE BRIEF

JA Take Stock in Your Future[®]

■ Financial Literacy

JA Take Stock in Your Future introduces high school students to the stock market. This learning experience includes two components: a classroom curriculum, and for many participants, the JA Stock Market Challenge competition.

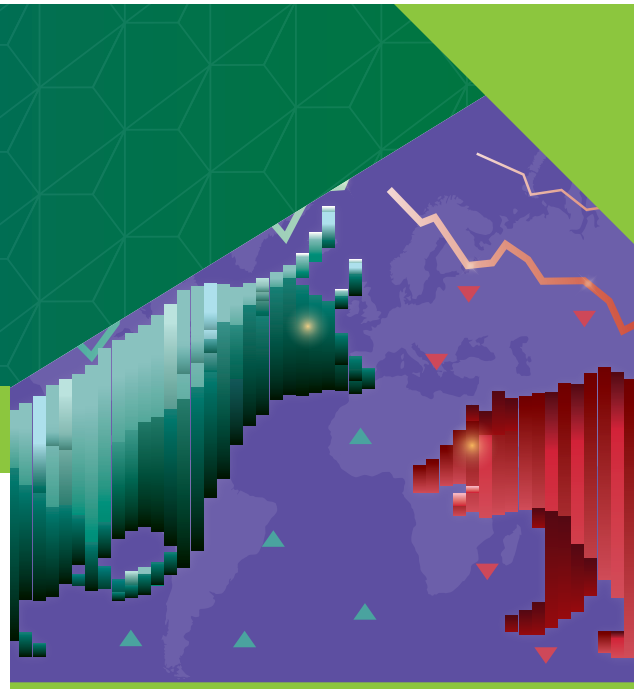
The classroom curriculum comprises five sessions that introduce students to basic concepts about how the stock market works and the impact of current events on the stock market. The learning experience also includes multiple student self-guided extension activities that engage students in deeper learning about the stock market and investing concepts. Through *JA Take Stock in Your Future*, students discover the benefits and challenges of investing in the stock market as part of a broader, long-term investment strategy and the risks and rewards of trading.

This learning experience is part of the JA Financial Literacy Pathway with a secondary focus on Work and Career Readiness competencies and is designed for Grades 9–12. The learning experience may receive 5 or more Instructional Contact Hours based on delivery of the optional content. The learning experience is primarily educator-led content, with multiple options for volunteer engagement.

CURRICULUM OUTLINE

1 Session One: Understanding Stocks

Students are introduced to the foundational concepts of stocks and the stock market through the analysis of an authentic, real-time stock market report. Then, they practice selecting stocks from a fictitious market to develop a portfolio.



LEARNING EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Blended model, educator- and volunteer-led
- Curriculum delivery in person (face-to-face in the classroom) or virtually (online in a remote classroom)
- Five required sessions, plus optional extension sessions
- Optional online or site-based JA Stock Market Challenge competition

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2 Session Two: Stock Trading

Students explore how stocks are traded, how stock prices are affected by current events, and how investors make investment decisions and diversify their portfolios. Students are introduced to stock indexes/averages and stock tables, and they practice buying, selling, or holding stocks from their fictitious stock portfolio.

3 Session Three: Exploring Dividends

Students analyze today's stock market and explore the concept of dividends. Students analyze their fictitious stock portfolio and calculate their dividend payments.

4 Session Four: Best-in-Class Competition

Students put their new stock market knowledge and skills into practice as they compete to win an in-class competition. This session is designed to be flexible based on students' grade level and experience, plus the online stock market simulation tool selected by local JA Areas.

5 Session Five: Planning for the Future

Students reflect on the experience of participating in the in-class competition and/or the JA Stock Market Challenge event and connect the simulations to the real world. They conclude the program by developing their own financial goals.

Extension Activities

- Including the following topics:
- Diversification and Risk
- Factors that Influence Stock Prices
- Private vs. Public Companies
- Setting Stock Prices and Trading Stock
- Smart Investing
- The Animals of the Stock Market
- My Stock Portfolio
- Data Gathering
- Comparing Investment Channels
- Analyzing Initial Public Offerings (IPOs)
- Financial Watchdogs
- Taxes and the Stock Market
- Preparing for the JA Stock Market Challenge Event
- Evaluating Your Financial Plan
- Investing for the Long Term