

## LEARNING EXPERIENCE OVERVIEW

# JA Career Speakers Series

### ■ Work and Career Readiness

In *JA Career Speakers Series*, a volunteer guest speaker visits the classroom and shares information about his or her career, work, and education experience. The speaker may bring props, samples of his or her work, or other visuals to help engage participants. Activities and implementation design will vary based on grade level.

This event is part of the JA Work and Career Readiness Pathway and can be placed in grades K–12 and post-high school, in-school or after-school/out-of-school. The event may receive 1 to 3 Instructional Contact Hours (ICH) per volunteer guest speaker.

The *JA Career Speaker Series* activities will vary based on grade level.

Below is a sample outline for middle school.

## LEARNING EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Structured guides and student handouts provided to all volunteers and educators
- Includes an optional pre-speaker session (teacher-led) and an optional post-speaker session (teacher-led)
- Four versions tailored toward grades K–2, grades 3–5, grades 6–8, grades 9–12 and post-high school

## CURRICULUM OUTLINE

Session	Overview	Objectives/Goals	Activities
<b>Before the Event</b>	Participants research the visiting career speaker and his or her company, and prepare questions for the speaker event.	<b>Participants will be able to...</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify skills and interests.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Teacher prepares participants for guest speaker and reviews materials.</li><li>• Participants research jobs and background related to guest speaker's profession.</li><li>• Optional: Use interactive supplement with participants so they can exploring careers for themselves, as individuals.</li></ul>

(continued)

# JA Career Speakers Series

## CURRICULUM OUTLINE

Session	Overview	Objectives/Goals	Activities
<b>During the Event</b>	Participants learn about the guest speaker's job experiences and stories, ask questions, and take notes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Practice active listening skills.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Volunteer speaker shares his or her job experiences and stories to offer insight and guidance for career education.</li><li>• Teacher remains in the classroom during the entire visit to maintain classroom discipline and help foster participant engagement.</li><li>• Participants engage with the volunteer and take notes in their Student Guides.</li></ul>
<b>After the Event</b>	Participants reflect on what they learned during their preparation and the speaker event.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recognize career clusters.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Participants report one or two of the most significant things they each learned from the preparation and speaker event.</li><li>• Participants write a thank you note to the speaker.</li><li>• Participants work in pairs to create a Career Cluster Scavenger Hunt.</li><li>• Optional: Use online supplements, Battle of the Bands, and JA Assembling Your Career if these were not explored previously.</li></ul>

Visit <https://connect.ja.org/>, JA Connect Resource Guide <https://data.ja.org/s/dBUAAA>, and <https://career.ja.org/> for additional resources.