

Virtual Volunteer Presenter's Guide

In *JA Economics for Success*, middle school students explore their skills, interests, values, and the world of work to make informed education, career, and life decisions. They also learn how personal finance decisions are important, including smart budgeting, wise credit use, and minimizing financial risk.

To assist you in virtually presenting to students—whether via a short, recorded video or beaming in live to an in-person or remote classroom—we have prepared the following outline to help you gather your thoughts and connect with students. If you create a recorded video, you will skip the Break the Ice portion of the outline and reduce the time spent on other sections.

Presentation Outline

1. **Introduce yourself and your company.** Describe your position and your basic job duties. *(3 minutes for remote live beam-in/30 seconds for recorded video)*
2. **Break the ice.** Capture students' interest in your topic and its connection to managing your finances, career choices, and the need for soft skills. *(5 minutes for remote live beam-in/skip for recorded video)*
 - Ask students to share some of the ways they currently earn money, and how they keep track of the money they earn.
 - Describe an occupation and see if students can guess what it is.
 - Tell students the worst financial decision you ever made.
3. **Share stories** that highlight you, your expertise, and your experiences. *(5 minutes for remote live beam-in/3 minutes for recorded video)*
 - Select a topic from the list to illustrate your experiences through stories to increase students' engagement in the material. Consult your teacher or JA Area representative to find out if there is a particular session(s) or topic(s) they would like you to address.
 - Try to make your stories as concrete and relatable as possible, using vivid detail and captivating language, asking questions as appropriate, and making sure your audience is following along.
 - **Session One: Mirror, Mirror.** What makes you special? Describe your sellable points—whether interests, skills, or values—and how you have made use of them in your career.
 - **Session Two: Be a Success.** Describe your career path and how you arrived at your present position. How did you initially go about making choices for your career? Did you set goals to help you succeed?
 - **Session Three: Keeping Your Balance.** Relate an experience you had with budgeting—whether it was a success or a total failure.
 - **Session Four: Savvy Shopper.** Have you ever purchased something that you thought would be great but turned out to be a total waste of money? Share with students what the product was and how the situation made you feel.
 - **Session Five: Keeping Score.** Talk about a positive or negative experience you or someone you know had with credit cards or credit scores.
 - **Session Six: What's the Risk?** Share a risky situation you were in, or loss you incurred. How did you get out of it? Did someone come help you, or did you have insurance that covered your loss?

Remote Live

For volunteers beaming in live to connect with students, the minimum requirement is one, 15-minute session. Your JA Area representative can provide additional details.

Recorded Video

JA recommends that each recorded video be 3–5 minutes maximum in length. Your JA Area representative can provide additional filming guidelines and recommendations.

4. Review and wrap up. *(5 minutes for remote live beam-in/30 seconds for recorded video)*

- Ask students to share something that they have learned in the program about careers or money management. Does it relate to your story today?
- Work with students to sum up your talk in three cogent points.
- Share with students your most important takeaway about choosing a career or managing finances.

If you have any questions about your time as a remote volunteer or about the JA program material, please contact your local JA office, or visit the website at <https://jausa.ja.org/programs/ja-economics-for-success>.

To help improve the JA experience, we welcome your feedback via this short survey at https://juniorachievementusa.formstack.com/forms/feedback_form_location_ck.