



JA Exploring Economics[®]

High School

Through hands-on classroom activities, *JA Exploring Economics* tackles a complex subject and makes it accessible and fun for high school students. The program teaches concepts such as supply & demand and inflation. It teaches students about the effect governments and individuals have on the global economy. By making economics engaging and relatable, *JA Exploring Economics* helps students better understand the impact they have on the economy as consumers and taxpayers. It teaches important personal financial lessons around spending, saving, and investing. *JA Exploring Economics* consists of seven 45 minute volunteer led sessions and is recommended for students in grades 9 through 12.

Session One: Economic Systems: Who Makes the Big Decisions?

Students examine how the economic system that a society uses for production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services significantly affects the individuals in that society.

Session Two: Supply and Demand: What's It Worth to You?

Students illustrate the impact of supply and demand on the economy by participating in an economic situation using real-life examples.

Session Three: Supply and Demand: The JA Market Game

Using an experiential game format, students demonstrate the interaction of supply and demand and how market forces affect the price of products.

Session Four: Saving and Investing: Risks and Rewards

Students explore concepts related to consumers, savers, and investors, including how wealth increases in different saving and investing options. They compare the characteristics, risks, and rewards of several options.

Key Learning Objectives

The students will be able to:

- Analyze the impact of a society's economic system on the decisions it makes about the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services.
- Evaluate how the following characteristics affect the efficiency of a market: money, private property, limited government, exchange of resources in available markets, and entrepreneurship.

Key Learning Objectives

The students will be able to:

- Review the concepts of supply and demand.
- Define market-clearing price.
- Demonstrate the interaction between supply and demand in a free-market economy.
- Respond to real-life examples of price and other market forces that influence supply and demand and the market-clearing price.

Key Learning Objectives

The students will be able to:

- Explain the interaction between supply and demand in a free-market economy, and the market's drive toward establishing a market-clearing price.
- Apply real-life examples of market forces that influence supply and demand.

Key Learning Objectives

The students will be able to:

- Recognize ways to earn and increase wealth through saving and investing.
- Analyze examples of wealth acquired through saving and investing.
- Evaluate different methods of saving and investing, including varied risks and rewards.



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Session Five: Government's Role in the Market

Students analyze the effect of government on the economy, including intervention through the production of public goods and services, taxes, and its role in protecting private property.

Session Six: Money, Inflation, and the CPI

Students learn about inflation and its effect on prices, consumer purchasing power, the willingness of financial institutions to loan money, and how the Consumer Price Index (CPI) monitors inflation.

Session Seven: International Trade

Students compare trade policies and the global economy through a simulation based on the increased utility (satisfaction) of international trade.

Key Learning Objectives

The students will be able to:

- Categorize public versus private goods, and explain why governments intervene in the economy by providing public goods.
- Express why individuals and businesses pay taxes.
- Analyze the impact of the government's role in protecting private property.

Key Learning Objectives

The students will be able to:

- Define inflation and demonstrate its connection to the availability and value of money in a market, as well as its effect on prices and consumer purchasing power.
- Explain and calculate how the Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures consumer prices.
- Recognize that inflation can impair a market economy by affecting consumer confidence and funds available for investment.

Key Learning Objectives

The students will be able to:

- Describe the significance of international trade.
- Analyze the impact of trade on national and international utility.