JA It's My Future® Blended Model
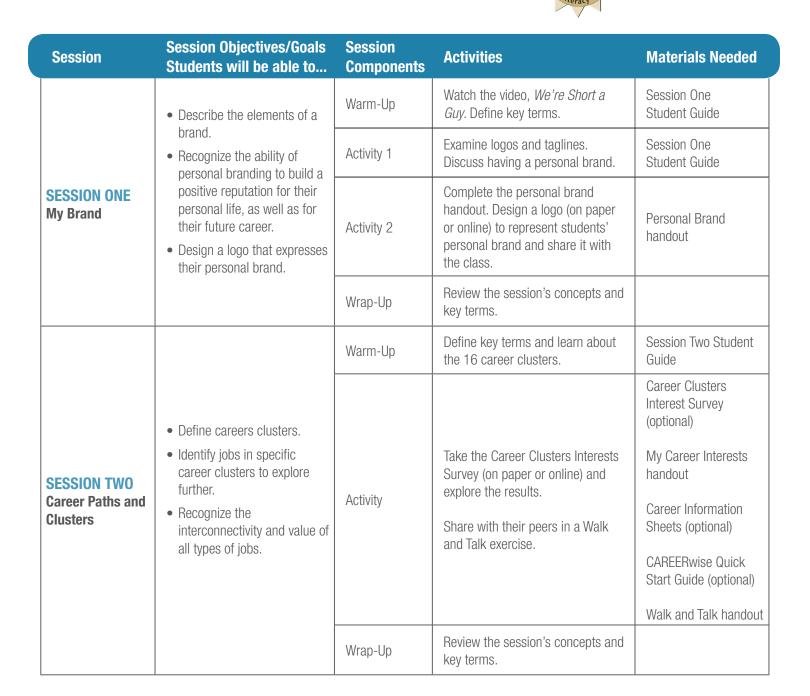## Program Overview

JA It's My Future Blended Model offers middle school students practical information to help prepare them for the working world. Students will develop the personal-branding and job-hunting skills needed to earn a job. Upon completing the program, students will be able to research potential careers, create a basic resume, recognize appropriate behavior for a job interview, and differentiate between soft and technical skills. The program consists of six 45-minute sessions led by a volunteer, with Additional Opportunities offered throughout.

Session	Session Objectives/Goals Students will be able to...	Session Components	Activities	Materials Needed
SESSION ONE **My Brand**	• Describe the elements of a brand. • Recognize the ability of personal branding to build a positive reputation for their personal life, as well as for their future career. • Design a logo that expresses their personal brand.	Warm-Up	Watch the video, *We're Short a Guy*. Define key terms.	Session One Student Guide
		Activity 1	Examine logos and taglines. Discuss having a personal brand.	Session One Student Guide
		Activity 2	Complete the personal brand handout. Design a logo (on paper or online) to represent students' personal brand and share it with the class.	Personal Brand handout
		Wrap-Up	Review the session's concepts and key terms.	
SESSION TWO **Career Paths and Clusters**	• Define careers clusters. • Identify jobs in specific career clusters to explore further. • Recognize the interconnectivity and value of all types of jobs.	Warm-Up	Define key terms and learn about the 16 career clusters.	Session Two Student Guide
		Activity	Take the Career Clusters Interests Survey (on paper or online) and explore the results. Share with their peers in a Walk and Talk exercise.	Career Clusters Interest Survey (optional) My Career Interests handout Career Information Sheets (optional) CAREERwise Quick Start Guide (optional) Walk and Talk handout
		Wrap-Up	Review the session's concepts and key terms.	

SESSION THREE **High-Growth Careers**	• Identify specific careers that are forecast to have high-growth rates. • Consider a variety of factors when selecting a career.	Warm-Up	Define key terms. Play a sorting game in which students examine careers and sort them into two categories: growing or declining.	Session Three Student Guide
		Activity	Play the Career Matchup game in which students learn about careers, education requirements, and job growth potential.	High-Growth Careers Handout
		Wrap-Up	Review the session's concepts and key terms.	
SESSION FOUR **Career Mapping**	• Identify jobs in specific career clusters that they would like to explore further. • Plan significant milestones they need to reach to earn a particular job.	Warm-Up	Play Who Am I? to guess a celebrity and the experiences he or she had on the way to his or her career destination. Discuss the celebrities in the game to identify the skills and experiences that helped shape each celebrity's future career.	Session Four Student Guide
		Activity	Learn about a career map and examine a sample. Complete the personal career map handout and share it with the class.	Career Map: Forensic Science Technician handout My Career Map
		Wrap-Up	Review the session's concepts and key terms.	
SESSION FIVE **On the Hunt**	• Recognize basic job-hunting techniques, including looking for a job, applying, interviewing, and listing references. • Recognize the importance of personal presentation and making a good impression, on paper and in person. • Recognize the basic construction of a resume and the skills that should be highlighted on it.	Warm-Up	Learn about the job-hunting process and define key terms. Play Two Truths and a Myth to underscore facts about job hunting.	Session Five Student Guide
		Activity	Watch a video to learn five important resume tips. Through a resume builder, learn about the proper format for a resume and select the correct skills and experiences to apply for a specified position. Learn interviewing tips and watch a video that focuses on the soft skills enthusiasm and attitude.	25 Job-Hunting Tips handout My Resume handout Model Resume (online only)
		Wrap-Up	Review the session's concepts and key terms.	

SESSION SIX **Soft Skills**	• Define and differentiate between technical skills and soft skills. • Identify specific soft skills they already possess and those they need to improve on.	Warm-Up	Watch a video about the soft skill communication and discuss as a class. Define key terms. Play a sorting game to sort skills into two categories: soft skills and technical skills.	Session Six Student Guide
		Activity	Complete the Soft Skills Self-Evaluation handout. In groups, students role-play some of the soft skills using a Role-Play Scenario card.	Soft Skills Self-Evaluation handout Soft Skills Role-Play Cards
		Wrap-Up	Review the program's concepts and key terms.	Program Certificates

Concepts: Achievements, attitude, brand, career, career clusters, career mapping, career paths, communication, decline, education level, high-growth careers, interests, job application, job growth, job hunting, job interview, job outlook, logo, making a good impression, maps, personal brand, professionalism, references, reputation, skills, soft skills, tagline, teamwork, technical skills, transferable skills, work ethic

Skills: Analyze branding, analyze charts and graphs, analyze data from media, applying cause and effect, demonstrating cause and effect, evaluating and sorting options, group discussion, identifying personal skills, identifying strengths and weaknesses, logical reasoning, note taking, prediction, read for understanding, recognize patterns, recognize vocabulary, review results, role-playing, self-evaluation, teamwork, use art as self-expression

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