

LEARNING EXPERIENCE BRIEF

Self-Guided Curriculum JA BizTown®

■ Work and Career Readiness ■ Financial Literacy

The *JA BizTown* self-guided curriculum is a series of 33 self-guided topics that students can complete independently or together as a class. Additionally, the Primer is a foundational learning tool centered on civics and free enterprise concepts that acts as an introduction to both the classroom curriculum and the self-guided curriculum.

The curriculum emphasizes the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and provides visuals to students and educators to enhance the connections between individuals, the organizations they are a part of, and the community they live in.

Civics and free enterprise concepts and ideas are integrated into many self-guided topics to elevate the civics focus. Each topic, ranging from 5–10 minutes in duration, contains short animations, exploratory activities, and knowledge checkpoints. All knowledge checkpoints provide practice and constructive feedback to reinforce learning.

The self-guided topics can be used to:

- Prepare students for the onsite simulation.
- Prepare students for the Online Adventures.
- Supplement classroom materials.
- Reinforce and extend learning (for whole group or individuals).
- Assign to students who have missed part of the curriculum.

All self-guided topics are labeled to align with the unit and lesson in the classroom curriculum.



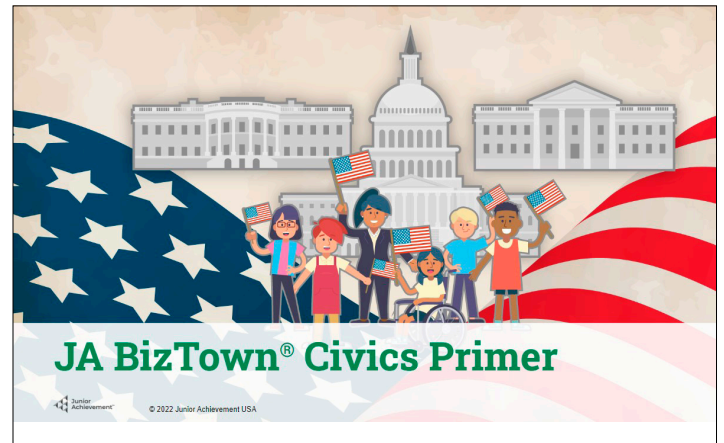
LEARNING EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Based on the civics enhancements from the classroom curriculum, the self-guided curriculum incorporates lesson objectives, concepts, and terms that reflect how civics underpins the daily lives of everyone in a community.
- Self-guided online learning activities include:
 - The *JA BizTown* Civics Primer.
 - Community and economy, work readiness, and civics and free enterprise content.
 - Engaging and informative visuals to assist students along their journey.

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PRIMER

The Primer, a **pre-program** optional learning experience, provides students with background information about the founding of the United States and the basic structure of the federal government. This self-guided asset includes key documents such as the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution and a brief history of their development. The Primer also defines civics fundamentals and terms. It can be used prior to beginning *JA BizTown* curriculum or in conjunction with the curriculum. The Educator Overview includes suggested locations where Primer content will be appropriate.



SELF-GUIDED UNIT OVERVIEWS

Unit 1: Financial Literacy

Introduces students to basic banking principles in a free market economy. Students focus on the financial freedoms granted by the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights, and the rule of law.

Unit 2: Community and Economy

Explains the circular flow of the economy in a free enterprise system. Students focus on the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, the circular flow of the economy, involvement of government, and the purpose of taxes.

Unit 3: Work Readiness

Introduces students to the process of entering the workforce and workforce readiness skills. Students focus on the rights and responsibilities of citizens as workers in an economy and as informed voters in a representative democracy.

Unit 4: Business Management

Establishes the primary concepts related to managing a business in a free market economy. Students focus on the rights and responsibilities of citizens as business managers in an economy.

Unit 5: Visit

Participate in the *JA BizTown* simulation. Students focus on performing their job responsibilities, managing their finances and time, and carry out responsibilities of citizenship.