

Teacher Stories

Our home school co-op offers choices of classes for our over 100 Junior and senior high students to choose from. I contacted Junior Achievement about your Economics program so we could add this to our selection. Here are some of the results of this new program at our co-op:

- *One senior put down that this was one of her favorite classes while attending the co-op.*
- *Another student upon graduating went to the bank and took out a CD. His mother was with him and one of the first things he said was, "I can't wait to tell Miss Sandy that I did this."*
- *Lastly, a freshman in college, who took the JA class, last year, told her mom that her Economics class in college was her favorite class.*

I used both the text and study guide in my class, as well as the JA Titan Game. The students apply for the class as if it is a job, by filling out applications, w-2's, and receive their wages (JA money) based on their attendance, home work assignments, and bonus activities. At the end of the semester we have an auction.

I have also added looking a current newspaper articles, a stock market game, and a banking simulation. Thank you for having such good and inexpensive resources for us to use.

Sincerely,
Sandy

Parent JA volunteers for both our 4th and 5th grades got so involved with the program and the classes that they have each taken it further. The 4th grade is setting up some mock businesses based on information taught and with the parent-teacher's guidance. The 5th grade is actually doing a selling piece for the Jewish holiday of Purim which comes in March this year under the leadership of that parent-teacher.

Submitted by Paula

I am a first year teacher. I loved having JA come into my classroom. The students learned about the business process and enjoyed the projects that were incorporated into the program.

Submitted by A. Steffey

I'm a third grade teacher at Holy Trinity School. Last fall a great volunteer, Laura, came and worked with us using the third grade program, The City. It worked out well with our Social Studies. Laura was so energetic!! One of the activities we did was to come up with businesses (restaurants). It was so much fun for them we ended up writing commercials--with jingles and menus and putting each group's restaurant in a "real" commercial using the Movie Maker program. What a great learning experience.

Submitted by Mary

The beginning of this school year (07/08) was also the beginning of my second semester teaching. I was hired right out of college last year in December for the Alton School District. I decided to invite observers into my classroom because I know how difficult it can be to find teachers that are willing to let others come in. Anyway, our JA student came to us around October, if I remember correctly. He was a non-traditional student who was going back to college for a career in education. He completely connected well with my class instantly. Even though he doesn't have to do anymore hours of observation or things of that sort at the moment, he still comes to visit my class, show them magic tricks, write letters, and he even adopted my class for Christmas. He knew that my students wouldn't be getting much in the way of gifts so his family was gracious enough to bring even more joy into my students' lives. Now, my students look forward to his emails, letters, and visits. They ask about him all the time and get very excited when he pops in to say hi! I couldn't be happier with my decision of welcoming college students into my classroom, and I will continue to do so as long as I am in this profession.

Submitted by Amanda