

Imagine you're a 35 year-old single parent earning \$32,000 yearly as an office assistant, or perhaps you're a 42 year-old regional manager making \$65,000 annually.

### *How will you manage your money?*

At JA Finance Park, students act as adults for a day and make personal financial decisions in a realistic setting. Whatever role they are assigned, students develop lifelong financial skills through the program's in-class simulated experiences.



In JA Finance Park middle and high school students build a foundation of intelligent, personal financial decision-making skills. After completing 13 hours of classroom instruction delivered by their teacher, students visit the JA Park location for a real-world experience weighing adult financial choices to construct a personal budget.

Classroom instruction covers topics such as income and earning, investing, financial institutions, credit and credit history, applying for a loan, risk and insurance, a multitude of personal finance topics. When students enter JA Finance Park they assume an adult identity, including a job, salary, and family situation, to use as the basis of their simulation experience. Students put their classroom studies into action as they analyze budgeting options and tackle "adult" financial problems. This eye-opening experience gives students a solid foundation on which to build effective personal financial habits for life.



***Seriously! There is no room in the budget for the Mercedes Convertible!***

A recent national study of Junior Achievement programs and their potential to positively impact high school graduation rates affirmed that the relevancy found in JA Finance Park promotes student development of positive attitudes and behaviors that drive the academic achievement needed for graduation and future success.

Until recently this innovative program was only available to students who could travel to one of Washington's two JA World locations in Yakima and Auburn. JA of Oregon and Southwest WA introduced a new mobile JA Finance park that brings this formative experience to communities. Through a collaborative cross-state partnership, technology-driven mobile JA Finance Park unit is available for use in Washington and Northern ID.

A visit from the JA Mobile Finance Park arrived in Spokane on March 7th and continued through March 11, 2016. We had over 550 middle school students who became adults for the day from Salk, Shaw, Garry and Glover Middle Schools. Next year the event will be even larger incorporating an additional 2,000 plus students and more from the area high schools as well. The estimated cost to provide this incredible real life experience for one week is \$48,000.



Sponsorships and fees to support this program are available to businesses, donors, foundations, schools and PTG's. Sponsorships could come from a Title Sponsor, Storefront Sponsors (new and existing) and Student or School Sponsors.

Check out this video link on JA Finance Park from Buzzy Thibodeaux, Junior Achievement, EVP

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r0cnjcuftA>

