Personal Finance Curriculum Alignment

Personal Finance Program Curriculum

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this program, students will be able to explain:

- How education, income and planning impact personal finances
- The importance of budgeting and saving
- How credit choices influence personal finances
- Risks to your finances and ways to protect yourself

Objectives by Lesson

Lesson	Objectives
1. Plan to Earn	• Recognize the role income plays in personal finances • Evaluate the effect educational choices have on lifetime earnings • Describe the importance of planning in making financial decisions • Explore how present opportunities contribute to future success
2. Saving for Life	• Recognize high-dollar items and unexpected costs that require savings • Review key concepts related to successfully saving money
3. The Budget Game	• Recognize the importance of making and keeping a spending plan • Consider the wide range of expenditures that might make up a monthly budget
4. Credit Choices	• Recognize the importance of credit as part of personal finances • Express the need to make good credit decisions to avoid costly consequences
5. Savvy Customer	• Recognize potential risks to personal finance • Describe appropriate preventative methods to limit potential losses

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Cross Curricular Connections

Cross-curricular learning refers to incorporating overarching perspectives, themes, and skills into teaching and learning across multiple subjects and disciplines of the curriculum. The topics covered in Personal Finance connect with and can be taught in conjunction with many other areas of learning.

Area of Learning	Topics
Math	Financial literacy, number sense, problem solving, economics
Career Studies	Work/life transitions, post-secondary/career planning, decision-making
Social Studies	Economics, civics, citizenship
Socio-Emotional Learning	Problem-solving, critical and creative thinking, resilience, coping with stress and challenges
Health	Informed decision-making, how finances impact mental health
English Language Arts	Communication, presentation skills
French Language	Communication, presentation skills
Indigenous Education	Financial well-being, Indigenous contributions

Extensions

To extend the learning after participating in the Personal Finance program, students could:

- Learn key investing concepts, develop a personal investment plan and participate in a hands-on stock market simulation in the JA Investment Strategies Program.
- Learn how to protect their money with the JA Scam Smarts Learning Modules.
- Learn about currency exchange with the JA Curious about Currency Modules.
- Learn about money management and credit with the JA Your Money Questions Answered Modules.
- Explore career opportunities in Finance. Consider using resources such as the JA Virtual Career Exploration Centre or attend a JA World of Choices event.
- Foster financial literacy skills by developing a personal budget.

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Assessment

During or after the Personal Finance program, the program facilitator could:

- Assess student participation or engagement with speaker through observation, discussion and anecdotal notes.
- Use written or oral responses to activities and prompts to assess students' understanding of concepts such as earning, saving, spending, budgeting, credit, investments, financial planning, and protecting money.
- Assess communication and collaboration skills during group activities.
- Assess problem solving skills by observing students as they work through activities.

Pedagogical Approach

Junior Achievement (JA) uses an **experiential**, **hands-on** approach to teach students entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and work readiness skills. JA's programs incorporate **real-world learning** and a **community focus** to help students develop the **skillset** and **mindset** they need to succeed in the future.

JA Programs are designed and developed in consultation with educational partners, industry experts, and youth to deliver **engaging** and **relevant** learning experiences aligned with Canadian educational standards.

Personal Finance Curriculum Alignment

ONTARIO

Transferable Skills Alignment

Transferable skills are the skills and attributes that students need in order to thrive in the modern world. By participating in the Personal Finance program, students develop practical money skills for everyday life enabling them to make informed financial choices. Here are some examples of how students can develop transferable skills through JA's Personal Finance program.

Competencies	Personal Finance Alignment
Critical Thinking and Problem Solving	Students apply critical thinking and problem-solving while comparing saving and investment strategies, the risks and benefits of credit, and needs and wants.
Innovation, Creativity, and Entrepreneurship	Students apply creative thinking to create a personal budget that aligns with their goals.
Self-Directed Learning	Students identify the impact of financial decisions on well-being, plan for short-term and long-term financial goals, and explore influences on consumer choices.
Collaboration	Students practice brainstorming and collaboration through small group and whole class activities.
Communication	Students exchange ideas and share multiple perspectives during activities and discussions.
Global Citizenship and Sustainability	Students explore how income deductions such as taxes, CPP/QPP, and EI are used to provide services for citizens and employees.
Digital Literacy	Depending on the program delivery format, students could use digital resources to document, share and explore ideas.

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Ontario Curriculum Alignment

Grade 9

Area of Learning	Subject/Course	Curriculum Alignment/Topic
Mathematics	Mathematics (MTH1W) (2021)	Strand F: Financial Literacy
Guidance and Career Education	Learning Strategies 1: Skills for Success in Secondary School, Grade 9, Open (GLS1O) (GLE1O) (2006)	Strand A: Learning Skills
Social Studies	Exploring Family Studies (HIF1O) (2013)	Strand D. Exercising Responsibility

Grade 10

Area of Learning	Subject/Course	Curriculum Alignment/Topic
Guidance and Career Education	Career Studies Grade 10, Open (GLC2O) (2024)	Strand B: Exploring and Preparing for the World of Work Strand C: Planning and Financial Management to Help Meet Postsecondary Goals
	Discovering the Workplace, Grade 10, Open (GLD2O) (2009)	Strand A: Essential Skills for Working and Learning Strand C: Exploration of Opportunities
Social Studies	Exploring Family Studies (HIF2O) (2013)	Strand D. Exercising Responsibility

Grade 11

Area of Learning	Subject/Course	Curriculum Alignment/Topic
Mathematics	Mathematics for Work & Everyday Life (MEL3E) (2007)	Expectations: A. Earning and Purchasing B. Saving, Investing, and Borrowing

Personal Finance Curriculum Alignment

Grade 12

Area of Learning	**Subject/Course**	**Curriculum Alignment/Topic**
Guidance and Career Education	Designing Your Future, Grade 11, Open (GWL3O) (2009)	Strand C: Exploration of Opportunities Strand D: Preparation for Transitions and Change
Mathematics	Mathematics for Work & Everyday Life (MEL4E) (2007)	Strand B. Personal Finance
	Foundation for College Mathematics (MAP4C) (2007)	Strand B. Personal Finance
Social Studies	Personal Life Management (HIP4O) (2013)	A. Research and Inquiry Skills B. Self and Others C. Daily Living Skills D. Personal and Social Responsibilities E. Economics and Personal Finances