

# JA Careers with a Purpose<sup>®</sup>

## Evaluation Results

February 2008

### Overview

- *JA Careers with a Purpose*, a seven-session interdisciplinary program, introduces students to the importance of seeking careers that help them realize their life potential and noble purpose.
- The program's impact was evaluated through pre- and post-survey responses, classroom observations, and focus groups.
- Timeframe: August 2007 – January 2008.
- Sample: 441 participating and comparison students participated in the evaluation.

### Student Impact

- An analysis was performed to see if participating and comparison students were comparable in terms of content knowledge at the onset of the program. A test for group equivalence found that the two groups were comparable.
- From pre- to post-test, program students significantly outperformed the comparison students.
- Students gained confidence in their scholastic abilities and were more likely to report that they "[were] able to learn new concepts quickly" and "understand how to succeed in school."
- Survey results showed that students found the program to be relevant to the real world (83%).

### Teacher and Volunteer Impact

- Volunteers felt that the materials were attractive and easy to use.
- The majority of teachers and volunteers agreed that the curriculum encouraged students' creativity and imagination and resulted in a high level of student participation.



*I think the greatest success is getting kids to stop thinking about jobs and start thinking about what their noble purpose is, and what they want to do with their lives. – Teacher*

*I learned that there is a difference between a job and a career. So this is basically about finding what I want to do as a career, not something that will just bring in money, but something that I'll actually want to do.*

– Student

Cited to:  
Evaluation and Training Institute (2008),  
*JA Careers with a Purpose* Summative Evaluation.  
JA Worldwide<sup>®</sup> (Junior Achievement) gratefully acknowledges  
Deloitte and the John Templeton Foundation for their dedication to  
the development and implementation of *JA Career with a Purpose*.

Knowledge Gain (p<.05)

