



MS Biztown

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Prerequisites:

- This class is open to all students in grades 6-8.



Course Description:

BizTown explores the world of economics, personal finance, career exploration, and entrepreneurship through small-group work and hands-on activities, which culminates with a trip to BizTown in Nashville. This class is highly interactive and includes a Classroom Economy, Market Day, Career Day, an extensive interview process, and many opportunities for small group work.



Commitment:

- **Important Date:** BizTown in Nashville is scheduled by JA Corporate and is typically scheduled for homeschool groups on a Friday in April. The specific date will be assigned to our class in late summer or early fall.
- Weekly homework will be approximately a half hour to an hour and a half per week. Preparation for Market Day will involve more time as students will be creating a product to sell to their classmates as part of our Class Economy.
- Parents are encouraged to donate items for our class store and auction, which is part of our Class Economy.

Optional parent volunteer opportunities include:

- Interviewing students for BizTown jobs, which typically is scheduled a week or two before Spring Break
- BizTown Chaperones have the opportunity to spend the day with us at BizTown in Nashville which is typically a Friday in April
- Career Day is an opportunity for parents to come share their passion for their career and answer questions



A typical class will look like...

Over the years of teaching JA/BizTown, I have created and added several elements to the national BizTown curriculum to help the abstract ideas of the class come alive! These additions include a Classroom Economy, Market Day, an extensive interview experience for BizTown and a Career Day. Our classroom economy will begin and end each class period. This time will include students cooperating in a small group working their classroom jobs, being paid in the class-created currency for their jobs and paying their rent. Eventually, the Class Economy will include opportunities to invest, buy a house, and more! The remaining class time will focus on exploring a concept of personal finance, economics, or entrepreneurship in a way that brings the concept to life for the students. This is not a lecture-based class. Students will be highly engaged through small group work, large group activities, and lively discussion in each class period. The weekly time spent in our Class Economy gives students the opportunity to apply the concepts we are learning, take risks and observe the consequences of their decisions in real time.



Books and Supplies

Provided by tutor with \$30 lab fee:

- entry into BizTown in Nashville
- the JA/BizTown book

Each week students will need for class:

- a binder
- notebook paper
- pencils/pens

Market Day will involve students partnering with their parents to decide on a budget to use for supplies to create their Market Day product.