



TradesTown Training

What is JA Trades?

- Junior Achievement of Greater St. Louis offers a program called JA Trades, designed to introduce middle and high school students to careers in the trades. This hands-on program emphasizes the value of STEM skills and provides real-world experiences across a variety of trade professions.
- Students rotate through different stations to gain practical insight into careers such as welders, electricians, carpenters, and more.
- Volunteers play a vital role in the success of this program. We appreciate your support and hope your experience is both rewarding and memorable.

Why teach Trades?

- High Demand: Skilled workers are needed more than ever as many retire.
- Career Path: Trades offer a solid, well-paying alternative to college.
- Hands-On Learning: Ideal for students who prefer practical, real-world skills.
- Strong Earnings: Many trade jobs offer great pay and benefits.
- Essential Roles: Trades are critical to keeping our communities running.

Volunteer Role

- Students will rotate through several trades stations to gain first-hand experience with different skilled careers. Your role is to lead students through JA TradesTown, an activity that gives students insight into the many trades professions that take place in their neighborhoods.



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What is JA TradesTown?



JA TradesTown introduces students to the importance and value of trades jobs in their communities. Students work in pairs to view images of 22 trades workers in JA TradesTown and complete the JA TradesTown Student Activity along with solving a mystery phrase.

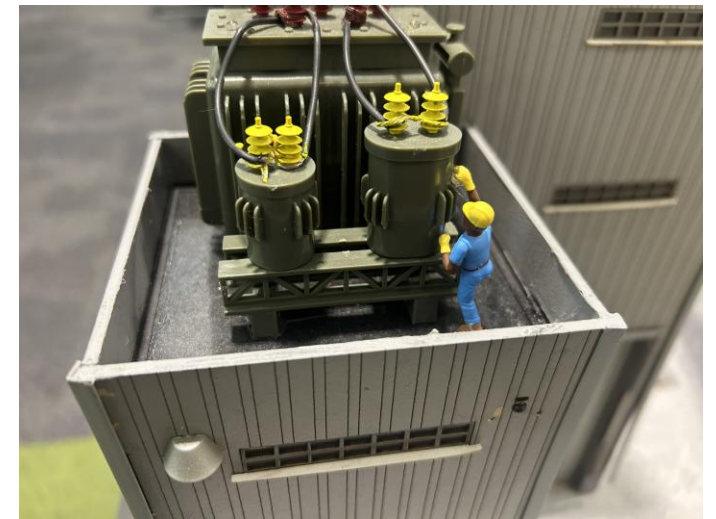


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Viewing the Simulation

What would your community look like if there were no trades workers? What would happen if ... we didn't have Plumbers? Electricians? Truck drivers? Concrete Finishers? Mechanics?



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Student Activity

- Each pair of students will use a tablet and hold it near each JA TradesTown business sign to view the trades job image. Each student pair will then write the job title on the Student Activity handout and find each highlighted letter in the job title on the image. They will use these letters to solve the mystery phrase on the back of the Student Activity sheet.



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Example of Trades in TradesTown



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Simulation Activity Instructions

JA TradesTown Volunteer and Educator Guide (20 minutes per student group)

Overview and Set Up

JA TradesTown introduces students to the importance and value of trades jobs in their communities. Students work in pairs to view images of 22 trades workers in JA TradesTown and complete the JA TradesTown Student Activity along with solving a mystery phrase.

- Devices should be readied before the start of JA TradesTown by logging in with passcode **1943** and clicking the **JA_AR** icon on each device. If possible, each device should be logged into 15 minutes before the session begins for warm-up.

Each pair of students will use one device and hold it near each JA TradesTown business sign to view the trades job image. Each student pair will then write the job title on the Student Activity and find each highlighted letter in the job title on the image. Ask the students to write the letter on the Student Activity. They will use these letters to solve the mystery phrase on the back of the Student Activity. Not all job titles contain a highlighted letter. The mystery phrase: **What happens if...** (Please note that the highlighted letter in the Roofer Sign is incorrect. The letter E should be highlighted.)

Each student pair will receive one device, one Student Activity, one pen/pencil, and one clipboard. Ask the student pairs to alternate holding the device and completing the Student Activity during the session.

Instructions: (Please say aloud the text in bold)

- You will receive a handout with detailed instructions upon your arrival to JA Trades. JA staff will check in to ensure you are comfortable with the task at hand and answer any questions you may have.



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THANK YOU!

**We look forward
to seeing you at
JA Trades!**

Enjoy the Day!



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