

JA Careers with a PurposeTM

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.

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Knowledge Gain (p<.05)

