



# NEWS RELEASE

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## Local Students learn financial literacy

**HUNTSVILLE, Ala.** – Students at Huntsville’s Holy Family Catholic School experienced “Junior Achievement-in-a-Day” Feb. 3 where they explored financial literacy, work place readiness and entrepreneurship with the help of volunteers from the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville.

Junior Achievement programs help students understand the world of economics and help prepare them for lifelong learning and achievement.

Resource Management Directorate employees Rhonda Brown and Darrell Davis, helped students to understand financial literacy, work place readiness and entrepreneurship.

Davis and Brown both said although they have not been in an elementary school classroom for a while, they were up for the task. They received the necessary training needed to provide classroom instruction well in advance.

Materials for each program are packaged in a kit containing detailed session plans, informative workbooks for students and additional learning materials to ensure a successful experience for students, teachers and volunteers.

Brown said she didn’t realize how much fun the experience would be, especially with first grade students.

“It was lots of fun,” Brown said. “I enjoyed myself and learned from the kids. I hope they learned something from me. “We used hands-on experiences to help them understand the economics of life.”

Davis agreed, saying he’s willing to participate in another JA event, whenever another opportunity arises and his schedules permits him to do so. He said the experience proved to be very rewarding for him and was an excellent opportunity for him to inspire youth. The students also kept them very busy during the day.

According to Leah Amos, president of Junior Achievement North Alabama, JA programs are developed with a primary emphasis on social studies content, while providing a strong secondary emphasis on mathematics, reading and writing skills. Students learn fundamental business and economic concepts, explore career interests and opportunities and learn important principles of financial literacy.

Amos said the school had a great turnout for the event. The students were excited about spending the day with JA volunteers. She appreciates the effort Huntsville Center makes to provide volunteers for JA events, and hopes to continue to work with Center volunteers on future JA endeavors.

“Thank you so much (Huntsville Center) for volunteering and making a difference in our students’ lives,” Amos said. This is not the first time Huntsville Center has participated in a Junior Achievement of North Alabama community relations event. Huntsville Center employees sponsored a “Young Minds at Work” activity at the Center in 2009 and provided speakers for local schools during a career day in 2010.

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