

**Subject:** Give Girls Some STEM-spiration!

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[A young student smiling and using a multimeter.](#)

## STEM Opportunities for All



By **Christine Elgersma**

Senior Editor, Learning Content Strategy

When adults would ask me, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" I had a fairly finite list of possible jobs in my mind: Being a teacher was always on the list, but radio disc jockey, orchestra conductor, poet, and marine biologist rotated in and out. This list was a far cry from my own mother's, which was very short indeed. Here's what I didn't know: There were (and are) a ton of fascinating jobs out there I'd never even heard about 🤖, and having someone actively encourage exploration of these opportunities truly matters. 🧑🏻🏠

While the young women of today likely see way more possibilities than my mom and I did, it's still worth giving girls that extra reminder that they can do anything—especially when it comes to careers in STEM. **Because [we know representation matters](#), it's important for girls to know that women all over the world are—and historically have been—leaders in investigating, innovating, and improving myriad areas of STEM.**

In that spirit, this Women's History Month let's set out to inspire *all* kids to broaden their understanding of how science, technology, engineering, and math affect our lives every day, with a special focus on the female figures pushing these fields forward.

Here are some resources for you to use:

- *Science News Explores* has a ton of great profiles in their ["Cool Jobs" section](#), many of them of women. There's [this piece](#) about a civil engineer trying to make energy more affordable, [one about a forensic scientist](#) that

might enthrall true crime fans, and [one about a scientist](#) helping to protect pandas (among many others)!

- [Get girls started in STEM](#) early and often with these fun tools.
- Encourage coding and creation [for beginners](#) and [beyond](#).
- [Here are some great movies and documentaries](#)—with discussion questions—that address STEM-related topics. Many highlight girls and women as scientists, mathematicians, and engineers.
- [Take STEM learning up a notch](#) with tools for higher-order thinking skills.
- [Check out these STEM-related YouTube channels](#) to pass along to families or to use in the classroom.
- [Highlight Black history](#) with these TV and movie picks.
- [Get kids reading](#) and encourage a love of STEM with these books.

Ultimately, we want our students to imagine a future full of possibilities, and we get to play an important part in ensuring those possibilities are for all of them.

Best,  
Christine

**Fun link of the week:** [STEM inspiration in action](#).

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**Here's what else we have for you this week:**

TRY THIS TOOL

[Gizmos](#)

## **Gizmos**

Use these digital STEM simulations and lessons to give kids a more hands-on experience.

**USE WITH STUDENTS****Cybersecurity Lessons**

Encourage kids to explore this growing and important field of technology for their own online security and potential future career paths.

**SHARE WITH FAMILIES****Books with Stories of Extraordinary Women**

Highlight extraordinary achievements and female historical figures with these amazing books.

**FIND A NEW RESOURCE****Resources Aligned to NGSS**

If you need to cite Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), look no further than these resources that are already aligned.

**GET SOME TIPS****Movies, Books, and Podcasts About Artificial Intelligence**

No one has all of the answers about AI, so open a discussion in class using media and the included discussion questions.

## WATCH THIS

**Videos for Teachers and Students!**

Visit our YouTube channel for our newest digital citizenship videos for students, our recorded PD events, and our edtech reviews of the coolest tools.

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