

Share Your STEM Story

We know that young people, and particularly marginalized girls and gender expansive youth of color, need professional role models in STEM. We know for girls*, Role Models can make STEM careers tangible, help youth connect personally to the STEM community, and encourage a sense of belonging, which is key to persistence. Here are some questions to help you share more about your STEM journey. If your event is live, we recommend choosing a couple in advance that you would like to address, but be sure to leave room for the girls* to ask questions too.

These are just suggestions, feel free to add your own spin:

- Tell the group about your interests (inside and outside of STEM).
- Share a bit about your childhood. Where did you grow up? What was your life like at 12 years old?
- What made you want to become a scientist/engineer/etc.?
 - What about your life story gave you the inspiration to pursue STEM?
 - Has STEM always been your path?
 - Did you ever consider another path?
- Did any coursework in middle or high school prepare you?
- Why is it important that your perspective is in the STEM field? Why is it important to you that BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) women and gender expansive people are represented in STEM?
- How would you make a change in your work? (i.e. more women in your field)? What's it like not being a man in the STEM community? Do you ever feel lonely in your role, and if so, how do you cope?
- What about your history or identity contributes to your success in STEM?
- What is it like working with a variety of different people?
- What were some tough points during your journey? What put you down and how did you get back up?
- Is there anything along your path you regret that you recommend a student avoids?
- Tell girls* about your identity and how your identity was shaped: what race/s, culture/s, gender/s do you most identify with? What other parts of your identity are important to you?



Engaging Questions



*Including cis girls, trans youth, gender non-conforming and/or non-binary youth who experience(d) girlhood as a part of their journey.