

GIRLS IN STEM: ROLE MODELS

KEYSTONE SCIENCE SCHOOL

At Keystone Science School we believe that curiosity and critical thinking have the power to change lives. Girls in STEM does just that, by empowering girls to ask questions, develop solutions, dream big and to embrace challenges that can be the next big thing.

Overview of Program:

This program is aimed to inspire and encourage confidence and leadership in young females in STEM related fields, studies and activities. It incorporates the engineering, design and scientific processes into interactive, engaging activities, while promoting positive growth mindset. Students collaborate with other students to carry out their projects. Female professionals in the STEM-related fields will act as role models to the students, helping the girls with the projects and challenging them to think critically. Throughout the program students will be involved in reflective conversation and journaling to stimulate inward thought and consideration of their leadership and academic potential.

Mentor Roles and Responsibilities:

- Review program curriculum prepared by Keystone Science School staff. If facilitating a day program, volunteers ideally will actually work through the challenge to help anticipate areas of struggle or questions that may arise.
- Aid in program facilitation by:
 - Shadowing KSS instructors.
 - Working with students individually through projects and in small group settings.
 - Offering additional information, resources and answers to student's questions throughout day program. A key component to engaging girls in stem, is to find ways to relate their activities to the real world and draw on student's empathy.
- Inspire and encourage confidence and leadership in young females.
- Provide positive feedback and constructive critique throughout day program.
- Promote collaboration between students of different ages and school grades.
- Offer opportunities for girls to ask career related questions and offer insight on how the mentor became a professional in a STEM career.
 - Depending on program focus, mentors may be asked to speak in front of the group of girls (up to 50 students) and elaborate on their professional experiences.
- Time commitment:
 - Typical day program mentors arrive at 9am (9am-10am curriculum review, meet other mentors, basic orientation). Close of day program 5pm with family presentation 4:45pm. Total day: 8hrs
 - Mentors who cannot make a full day commitment can also participate in the following ways:
 - Aid in program facilitation for a half day (am preferred).
 - Offer expertise and support through curriculum and program review.
 - Compile professional experiences that can be shared with students via video/skype or other media.