



Site Recruitment Packet Information



# Who We Are

Founded in 2018, STEM Like a Girl is an Oregon-based nonprofit organization geared towards 3rd-5th grade girls and engages them in fun, hands-on science and engineering challenges that will excite and expose them to the fields of STEM. Our goal is to introduce girls to STEM activities and give families the tools to continue to pursue further opportunities to develop a STEM identity for their girls.

**We are on a mission to excite and empower girls with knowledge and confidence in STEM to become future problem solvers and leaders. Since our founding in 2018 we have:**

- **Hosted over 22 Parent-Daughter workshops**
- **Inspired over 400 girls (and their parents or adult caregiver) through STEM Like a Girl workshops in Oregon and Washington**
- **Partnered with over 100 volunteers to bring STEM Like a Girl workshops to life**



# The STEM Like a Girl Opportunity

**Girls can't become excited about something if they aren't exposed to it!**

Although there has been significant advancement in education and promotion of STEM activities for girls, as of 2021, women still hold only 35% of STEM jobs in the U.S.

## What the Research Says

- **Studies show that girls enjoy STEM activities but about 4 in 10 girls say they don't get enough practical experience**
- **During middle school, girls begin to lose interest in STEM fields and self-select out of higher-level math, science, and computer classes in high school**
- **A recent Girl Scouts of America study found that high school girls interested in STEM have more career support from parents, family members, teachers, and friends**
- **According to a recent Microsoft study, girls cited a lack of female role models in STEM as a key reason they did not follow a career in the sector**

Many existing programs focus on high school age girls when interest in these fields has already declined.

Our program aims to *break the barriers* that typically hold young girls back from developing an interest in science and engineering. **We believe everyone can STEM Like a Girl!**



# 97%

girls who attended our workshops became more excited about STEM activities

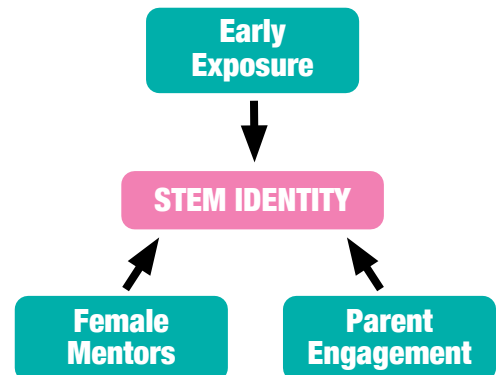
# 99%

families would recommend STEM Like a Girl Workshops to a friend

# What Sets STEM Like a Girl Apart?

When given the right tools early on, we believe all girls have the power to develop their own STEM identity. Our program aims to break the barriers that typically hold young girls back from developing an interest in science and engineering.

There are three key factors that help promote interest and excitement around STEM activities in young girls: early exposure, female mentors and parent engagement.



Our affordable, research-based program combines these three elements to begin cultivating a positive STEM identity for girls.

- **Early Exposure:** Our program focuses on 3rd-5th grade girls and lets them work through fun, hands-on science and engineering challenges that will excite and expose them to the fields of STEM. Our goal is to introduce girls to STEM activities and give families the tools to continue to pursue further opportunities to develop a STEM identity for your daughters.
- **Parent Engagement:** Our Parent-Daughter workshops encourage family learning with adults working side-by-side with their girl to solve fun STEM challenges.
- **Positive Female Mentors:** Our program allows girls to meet women working in various STEM careers. The mentors will share how they got excited about STEM and what they do in their jobs as scientists and engineers. Our goal is to show parents and girls the wide range of exciting and rewarding careers women in STEM hold.



**I really enjoyed STEM Like a Girl because I got to spend time with my mom and I thought that the bath bomb making was very fun!**

**- Grace, 5th grade**

We Believe in the power of girls, their parents and mentors to excite and empower girls with knowledge and confidence in STEM to become future problem solvers and leaders.

**We believe everyone can STEM Like a Girl!**



# STEM Like a Girl Workshops: Creating Future Problem-Solvers & Leaders

At the core of every STEM Like a Girl workshop is our **foundational belief** in the power of girls, their parents and mentors to excite and empower girls with knowledge and confidence in STEM to become future problem solvers and leaders.

## STEM Like a Girl Workshops

### Our Research-Based Curriculum Includes:

- **ICE BREAKERS:** Spark girls' interest quickly, provide hands-on activities, introduce them to a wide range of STEM concepts, and allow them to interact with other participants and volunteers in an informal way.
- **DESIGN CHALLENGES:** More in-depth activities that allow the girls to explore the design process. Participants all work on the project at the same time, either as a parent-daughter pair or in a small group.
- **MENTOR PANEL:** STEM professionals share how they got excited about STEM and what they do in their jobs as scientists and engineers. Our goal is to show parents and girls the wide range of exciting and rewarding careers women in STEM hold.



## At our Parent-Daughter Workshops, Girls & Parents Will:

- Participate in fun hands-on activities.
- Learn about the design process and why failure is a good thing!
- Meet and talk to women scientists and engineers to learn about what they do.
- Work with other parents (or adult caregivers) and girls to solve challenges as a team.
- Gain valuable bonding time between parents and daughters as you explore and learn together!

## A typical STEM Like a Girl Workshop Schedule (total length of 3 hours):

- Registration and Ice Breaker Activities (45 - 60 min)
- Introduction: What does it mean to STEM Like a Girl? (10 min)
- Design Challenge #1 (35-45 min)
- Snack Break and Mentor Panel (20-30 min)
- Design Challenge #2 (35-45 min)

Our Workshop Playbook will provide you with detailed information about planning and executing a successful workshop in your community. It also includes the full STEM Like a Girl curriculum with over 25 Icebreaker activities and 10 Design Challenges for you to choose from. Instructions, supply lists, and printables are all included to make the planning process as easy as possible regardless of your STEM background.



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**Last year, in second grade, my sweet, smart girl started coming home saying she wasn't any good in math. That the boys in her class were so much better. Organizations like STEM Like a Girl matter, so much more that we can imagine “**

**- Gretchen, Mom of Marabel, 3rd grade**

# STEM Like a Girl Workshop Details, Costs and Financial Assistance

**Who:** 3rd-5th grade girls and a parent or adult caregiver. A typical workshop serves 20-40 girls depending on the event space.

**Where & When:** Workshops should take place on a weekend and run approximately three hours in length. Site Leader will partner with the local community to secure a location and time (think community centers, local business spaces, schools & event centers)

**Participant Cost:** Our current in-person workshops fee is \$25 per parent-daughter pair (\$15 for additional daughters within the same family).

**Scholarships:** Financial assistance is available for families to cover the full cost

**Funding:** Workshops are funded through participant costs, local fundraising efforts, and STEM Like a Girl organizational funds

## Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion:

STEM Like a Girl is dedicated to providing a welcoming, inclusive, and equitable environment for all employees, volunteers and workshop participants. We treat all people with respect and dignity and are committed to providing a safe environment for every person. While our Parent-Daughter Workshops are aimed to serve those who identify as girls, we welcome people who identify as non-binary or gender nonconforming who wish to be in a female-identified environment.



**Thank you so much for such an awesome day. You have taken so much time to rally professional women in the STEM field and bring them to the girls here in Portland. I was so moved by this experience and can't wait to do it again with my daughter. She loved it! I was impressed with the care these folks took to connect with my daughter, gently questioning her thoughts for furthering the design process. I could see the wheels spinning. Much appreciation.**

**-Shannon, Mom of Zella, 3rd grade**

## STEM Like a Girl Site Leaders Will:

- Be committed to breaking the barriers that typically hold young girls back from developing an interest in STEM
- Be responsible for all aspects of the planning & execution of a STEM Like a Girl Workshop for your community
- Receive on-going support, resources & tools through virtual check-ins with STEM Like a Girl staff and access to our full curriculum and workshop playbook
- Identify and secure workshop sites
- Recruit girls and their accompanying adult
- Recruit volunteers to fill planning and workshop needs (~10-15 total volunteers)
- Help local fundraising efforts
- Serve as the point-person for girls, parents, volunteers & vendors before, during, and after the workshop
- Serve as the point-person overseeing all workshop day logistics, including venue set-up, participant check-in, workshop activities and flow, & clean up
- Create an inclusive, positive and fun environment that encourages confidence, creativity, taking chances, and working together
- Commit to hosting a minimum of one workshop per year in your location
- Are committed to breaking the barriers that typically hold young girls back from developing an interest in science and engineering. You do not have to be a STEM professional to be a Site Leader!
- Serve as a representative of the STEM Like a Girl organization within their community and support the mission and values of STEM Like a Girl

## Resources Provided by STEM Like a Girl

### Site Leaders Can Count On:

- Support from the STEM Like a Girl organization throughout the planning process
- Full access to the STEM Like a Girl Workshop Playbook, which includes instructions on planning and executing a successful workshop and our full curriculum of STEM activities
- Access to the STEM Like a Girl website and other technical platforms for registration (both participants and volunteers), marketing, and fundraising.
- Financial support to help cover costs of venue, supplies, etc.





# How to Get Involved – Creating A Local STEM Like a Girl Site In Your Community

Join us in our efforts to expand the reach of our research-based STEM Like a Girl workshops by creating a local STEM Like a Girl Site in your community, and help create a world in which girls' interests in STEM are nurtured, celebrated and valued.

## Next Steps:

### Are you ready to join the STEM Like a Girl community?

Help us bring our mission of exciting and empowering girls with knowledge and confidence in STEM by bringing a local STEM Like a Girl site to life. Complete the following steps to get started:



#### 1. Begin to think about the following logistics:

- Identify Site Leader and 2-3 other volunteers who are willing to take a leadership role in bringing a workshop to your community
- Identify a few dates for your workshop
- Scout out potential event spaces to host our workshop

#### 2. Submit STEM Like a Girl New Site Interest Form

#### 3. Once your site is approved by the STEM Like a Girl organization, Site Leaders will have an initial training with staff to begin the planning process

Whether you are new to STEM Like a Girl or an enthusiastic volunteer who is ready to advance our mission, we value your interest in learning more about how to start a site in your community!



I really like how STEM Like a Girl takes normal everyday stuff and turns it into great projects and ideas. Now that I'm in 6th grade, I'm looking forward to volunteering at a workshop because I get to help other girls learn about science and engineering.

- Evelyn,  
former STEM Like a Girl  
participant