

# PLANNING GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

More than just one day, Introduce a Girl to Engineering is a movement showing girls the fascinating world of engineering—and how engineers are changing our world. Educators play an integral part in inspiring and supporting girls' (and boys') interest in engineering.

It all comes down to role models. Are you ready to inspire a girl? Here's a short guide to get you started!

#### **STEP 1**: Find a Girl Day event near you.

• Girl Day events happen around the country each year. Try an internet search for Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day and other engineering festivals and events in your area.

# STEP 2: Incorporate engineering activities and lessons into your classroom or afterschool Program.

- We've got tons of fun, low-cost, hands-on engineering activity ideas and tips for teachers.
- Is engineering new for you? Check out our online training on how to bring engineering into your classroom. We offer workshops at the elementary, middle, and high school level.
- Middle school teachers—Get your students involved in Future City. <u>This competition</u> asks kids to imagine, research, design, and create cities of the future.

# **STEP 3:** Create special Girl Day programs.

- Tune into a special <u>Chats with Change Makers</u> on Thursday, February 23 at 12pm ET featuring a NASA engineer! You can also <u>watch past interviews on demand</u> featuring female engineers in fascinating careers.
- Explore the STEM Careers section of DiscoverE.org together. There you can:
  - Meet real engineers
  - See cool engineering projects
  - Learn about different engineering careers
  - And more!
- Present information on engineering careers and learn powerful messages to share with girls.
- Develop your own in-school engineering mentoring program or club for girls. One format to consider: Ask older students to do engineering activities and talk with younger students.
- Host a STEM career program for girls and their parents. Invite working engineers to share what they do firsthand.

# **STEP 4:** Set up a classroom or after school visit.

#### **STEP A: Find an engineer.**

- Are any of your former students pursuing engineering? Ask one to speak with your students about their career and the path they took to get there.
- Ask your students if they have parents, family members or neighbors who are engineers. You might be surprised at who already has engineers in their lives.



#### Find an engineer (continued).

- Search online for local engineering companies, engineering society chapters, and colleges and universities that have engineering schools. Most of these organizations have employees or volunteers who are eager to help.
- Take your students to the engineer. Contact a local engineering company or university and ask if they offer site-visits for your students. Ask to tour their facility and have a Q&A with engineers after.

#### **STEP B: Plan the engineer's visit.**

- Share with the engineer what your students are studying and what they already know about engineering.
- Ask the engineer if they have ideas for activities related to their work and how they plan to share them. What A/V or technical requirements will the engineer have, if any?
- Discuss in advance, how much time they will have with your students. Make sure to leave time for questions.

#### **STEP C:** What the visit might look like.

- Average length: 45 to 60 minutes
- Sample outline:
  - The engineer introduces self and her or his job
  - Leads a hands-on activity
  - O Wraps-up and relates it back to her or his job
  - Answers any remaining questions
- → Get more tips on inviting an engineer into your classroom.

#### **STEP 5: Get More Resources**

Use these Girl Day resources at your events and programming!

#### **Download:**

- Graphics & Ads
- Sample Posts
- Participant Certificates
- Bookmarks

#### For Purchase:

- Shirts
- Hoodies
- Stickers
- And more!

### **STEP 6:** Share What You're Doing

Tell us what you're doing and we'll tell the world!

#GirlDay2023 #Eweek2023 #CreatingtheFuture @DiscoverEorg

Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day<sup>TM</sup> is a program of DiscoverE. For more ideas and resources on engaging girls in engineering, visit  $\underline{\mathsf{DiscoverE.org}}$ .