

# Inspire a girl to #MakeWhatsNext

When we encourage girls to pursue science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), we double the potential to change the world for the better. [Research shows](#) that when girls are encouraged by both a parent and a teacher, they're more likely to remain engaged in STEM and see themselves in a STEM career someday.

Here are a few things you can do to inspire and support girls' interest in STEM subjects:



## Provide role models

- Introduce girls to women you know who work in STEM or computer fields (or seek one out).
- Watch for interesting stories that feature [female STEM professionals](#) and share them with the girls in your life.
- Find groups and events outside of school where girls have the chance to meet STEM professionals:
  - [Microsoft DigiGirlz](#)
  - [Girls Who Code](#)
  - [Black Girls Who Code](#)
- Share these [movies](#) and [books](#) that depict women and girls achieving amazing things with STEM knowledge.

## Generate excitement

- Talk about the [cool and important jobs](#) that people do with STEM knowledge.
- Explore how STEM and [computer science](#) careers are creative and help the world.
- See firsthand what a career in tech is like at a [DigiGirlz Day](#).
- Try an [Hour of Code](#).

## Provide hands-on experience

- Attend a free [STEM Saturday](#) at a Microsoft Store.
- Discover free learning activities that teach [computer science without a computer](#).
- Try a fun [STEM activity or experiment](#) over the weekend or at a slumber party.
- Visit a STEM-related museum.
- Introduce girls to STEM and computer-related clubs, camps and activities outside of school:
  - [Code.org classes](#)
  - [YouthSpark Camps](#)
  - [Girls Who Code](#)
  - [Boys & Girls Club of America](#)
  - [Girl Scouts in STEM](#)

## Provide encouragement

- Ask girls what they think of their STEM classes and why.
- Give them your attention and support when they express interest or curiosity about science or computers.
- Put an [inspiring poster](#) on the fridge or somewhere else in the house.
- [Read and watch inspiring stories](#) about what other young women are creating with STEM.
- Get your STEM on! Your enthusiasm for the subject matters.

## Encourage a growth mindset

- Show your own growth mindset! Start a [Girls Who Code club](#) — you don't need to be a techie!
- Let girls know they don't need to have the right answer right away. The important thing is seeking it out and discovering it!

For educators who are interested in closing the gender gap in STEM, go to [microsoft.com/girls-in-stem](https://microsoft.com/girls-in-stem).