

Laurel KE9BWI: Apollo 11!

Neely Myers (she/her) Schroeder Family Exploreum, Joplin, MO: Oh and Neely Myers, Schroeder Family Exploreum in Joplin btw!

Amanda Guerin (she/her): Hello from SEE Science Center! One of my earliest STEM memories was growing bean plants in 1st grade

Carly Domanico (she/her) Catawba Science Center: Hi from Catawba Science Center in Hickory, North Carolina! One of my earliest memories is growing up going to the Ontario Science Center & learning about the lifecycle of a frog in class!

Susan Yarad: I went to "Museum School" as a preschooler in Dallas at the science museum!

Kata Lucas (she/her): Learn more about NGCP: <https://ngcproject.org/>

Amanda Sullivan: Check out our November webinar here:

<https://ngcproject.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/ngcproject/event.jsp?event=808>

Jessica: Jessica from Gateway to Science, Bismarck, North Dakota. An Early memory is making a tissue paper hot air balloon at a summer space camp.

Kata Lucas (she/her): Learn more about ASTC: <https://www.astc.org/>

saras: Hi everyone! I'm Sara Kobilka, owner of Renaissance Woman Consulting, joining from the mid-Hudson Valley of New York. Folks in NYC, call us "upstate" and the rest of the state laughs at that. One of my earliest memories is a girl scout sleepover at the Science Museum of Minnesota and seeing giant dinosaur skeletons at night. I may have even slept under the triceratops but that might be an artificial memory.

saras: Thanks for sharing the Accessibility Toolkit! I'm one of the co-authors of that tool. :)

Kata Lucas (she/her): Network resources: <https://ngcproject.org/ifthen-champions-network>,

Collection: <https://www.ifthencollection.org/>, Initiative: <https://www.ifthenshecan.org/>

Sara Kobilka (she/her): Digital creators (ex. Raven the Science Maven, Emily Calandrelli, Alie Ward)

Replying: Amanda Sullivan: Yes!

Amanda Sullivan: What are some other examples of role models? Share in the chat!

Ingrid Zabel, PRI: Communication skills; ability to convey excitement about science

Replying: Emily Early (she/her): Yes! So important to help youth form their own excitement about STEM.

Maggie Knies: ability and career pathways!

Claire Johnston: Their story and path to their career!

Replying: Emily Early (she/her): Real human stories are so essential!

Harley Peters: Other girls and women that speak their language or can relate to their interest outside of science

Just Ann: Parents

Neely Myers (she/her) Schroeder Family Exploreum, Joplin, MO: Enthusiasm and passion

Just Ann: Bravery

Danielle DiFalco: approachable

Ingrid Zabel, PRI: Practical examples, such as being able to make a living doing science.

Amanda Sullivan: All of these characteristics you're sharing are so important! Thank you all for these great ideas.

Just Ann: Problem solving in everyday activities

Just Ann: - changing a tire, fixing a door handle, using tools, setting up a printer over wifi, fixing a garbage disposal, driving a lawn mower

Replying: Emily Early (she/her): STEM and life skills!

Just Ann: Could we expand this girl-centric experience to include all ages of women

Replying: Emily Early (she/her): Absolutely! These approaches can be used for all youth, too.

Sara Kobilka (she/her): If I have a slideshow, I find groups always get a kick out of seeing a picture of me roughly at the age of the group I'm speaking with. Nothing like seeing 1980s/90s hair and clothes. ;)

Replying: Emily Early (she/her): I love this idea, Sara. Sometimes young people forget that we were their age at one time, too! (though we might have looked a bit different 😊)

Replying: Sara Kobilka (she/her): Exactly! And this also helps with the multidimension idea because none of my pictures from that age were of me doing STEM.

Amanda Sullivan: Addressing STEM Stereotypes: Facilitating Challenging Conversations with Youth: <https://ngcproject.org/resources/addressing-stem-stereotypes-and-biases-facilitating-challenging-conversations-youth>

Addressing STEM Stereotypes with Children and Youth:

<https://ngcproject.org/resources/addressing-stem-stereotypes-young-children>

Sara Kobilka (she/her): Absolutely! I'm adding her to the list of people I want to invite to be on my soon-to-be-released podcast, "Connecting the Dots with The Renaissance People"!

Amanda Sullivan: Beata Mierzwa in the IF/THEN Collection: <https://ifthen.widen.net/s/fnvjnlvrpd>

Ralia Vardaxis: We have had local female architects come and guide our Sisters in STEM design and build a giant lego house.

Emily Early (she/her): Question: How might you integrate these strategies as you prepare and collaborate with role models in your work?

Ingrid Zabel, PRI: I think I will try to start more programs by asking girls about their STEM interests and sharing mine, as a way to relate to show interest and relate to each other.

Replying: Kata Lucas (she/her): Yes! I great way to integrate an icebreaker 😊

Discovery World: I think it's important to make people aware that they are role models! I think that could be big for people like our front line staff or volunteers

Carly Domanico (she/her) Catawba Science Center: Learning how to integrate their hobbies &

Danielle DiFalco: Overall, it's important to think about the girls you will be mentoring- adjust your connecting points with them. Include really thoughtful questions for them to share and feel seen.

Replying: Peregrine Bratschi: Agreed! Equally important to cool, relevant, engaging activities, are occasions for learners to bring their whole self to these interactions



IF/THEN® Champions Network
Empowering Role Models to
Broaden the Notion of STEM
Chat Transcript
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Marina Philip: I want to be able to facilitate more interactions between guest speakers and the kids. It makes a big difference when they can meet a role model more than once or twice.

Amanda Sullivan: I love and am inspired by all of these examples and ideas.

Kata Lucas (she/her): Resources: <https://ngcproject.org/ifthen-champions-network>

Kata Lucas (she/her): Upcoming Organizational Opportunities:

<https://ngcproject.org/ifthen-champions-network-opportunities>

Sara Kobilka (she/her): <https://waterwhys.org/seminar/fall-2025/>

Ralia Vardaxis: Received our 3 IF/THEN exhibits recently and they are beautiful additions to our museum!

Emily Early (she/her): early@ngcproject.org

Ingrid Zabel, PRI: Thank you

Peregrine Bratschi: Thanks so much, all!

Carly Domanico (she/her) Catawba Science Center: Thank you!

Sarah Alexander - Da Vinci Science Center: Thank you so much!

Chandler Reeder: Thank you!

Callie Northern LASC: Thank you all!

Marina Philip: Thank you!