



# SciGirls<sup>®</sup>

How to Use Role Models in  
Your Library Programs

October 24, 2023

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# Agenda

- Welcome!
- About SciGirls
- Role Model Strategies
- Using Role Models in Programs
- Role Model Videos
- Questions





# ICEBREAKER!

## Who is Your Role Model?



SciGirls



# About SciGirls



Media and education  
that changes the way  
girls see STEM and  
the world sees girls.

# Our Approach

- On TV
  - national PBS Kids series
- Online
  - safe, social networking website
- On the Ground
  - activities and professional development



Everything is grounded in the **SciGirls Strategies!**

Have you used role models in  
your library programs?



# Using Role Models in Programs

What is a Role Model?

- Short term interaction
- Role models need not (and in fact often do not) have any prior relationship with the students whom they are influencing





**Role Model Strategies:**  
Encouraging Youth to Consider STEM Careers

1. Show diversity of people in STEM.
2. Make a personal connection to create an inclusive learning space.
3. Share your whole self.
4. Share your STEM journey.
5. Encourage learning from setbacks.
6. Communicate how your work impacts people, your community, and the world.
7. Show how STEM is creative and collaborative.
8. Provide resources for support and guidance.

# Role Models Strategies

# Role Model Visits

- Be sure to connect with your role model before they visit with your program!
  - Keep in mind this might be their first time talking to a youth group.
- Educators should read the *SciGirls Role Model Strategies* guide so they are familiar with role model best practices, too.



# Role Model Visits

- Prepare your youth before the role model visit!
  - Tell them a little about the role model
  - Brainstorm questions they would like to ask!
- Families benefit from meeting role models too! Consider inviting your role model to attend the family event.



# Role Model Visits

- Encourage interaction!
  - Invite your role model to participate in an activity with the youth or have them lead an activity!
  - Have the youth share their projects with the role model and invite feedback!



# Role Model Visits

- If your role model is visiting virtually, keep these things in mind:
  - Be sure your role model can see all the youth in the program - it will be easier for them to interact if they can see each other's faces and read reactions!
  - Encourage your role model to share photos and use props, even if they are virtual!



# Where to Find Role Models

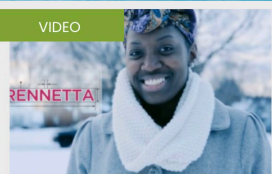
- Check with local colleges
- Reach out to local businesses
- [solarsystem.nasa.gov/solar-system-ambassadors/directory](https://solarsystem.nasa.gov/solar-system-ambassadors/directory)
- [iamascientist.info/educators](https://iamascientist.info/educators)

Other recommendations?

# Role Model Videos

## The SciGirls Collection

VIDEO



### Architectural Estimator: Brennetta Harris

ROLE MODEL PROFILES

Meet Brennetta Harris, an architectural estimator at CMI Architectural Products.

VIDEO



### Learning Experience Designer: Shakiyla Huggins

ROLE MODEL PROFILES

Graduate student and math teacher, Shakiyla strives to make online learning easy.

VIDEO



### Bióloga | Biologist: Amelia Merced

ROLE MODEL PROFILES

Dr. Amelia is a microscopist in Puerto Rico researching plant development and diversity.

VIDEO



### Space Station Explorer: Abby

ROLE MODEL PROFILES

Abby seeks adventure, from doing math to exploring Chicago to sending bacteria to space!

VIDEO



### Park Ranger: Claudia Santiago

ROLE MODEL PROFILES

As a Citizen Science coordinator at Congaree National Park, Claudia shares her love of science and the outdoors with the community.

VIDEO



### Bicycle Engineer: Rachel Gitajn

ROLE MODEL PROFILES

Meet Rachel Gitajn, a design engineer at Quality Bicycle Products.

VIDEO



### Web Developer / Project Manager: Emmaly Manchanthasouk

ROLE MODEL PROFILES

Meet Emmaly Manchanthasouk, a business analyst at Land O' Lakes.

VIDEO



### Firefighter: Kate Heckaman

ROLE MODEL PROFILES

Meet Kate Heckaman, a firefighter in the St. Paul Fire Department.

VIDEO



### Gameplay Engineer: Aubrey Scott

ROLE MODEL PROFILES

VIDEO



### Welder / Instructor: Seven Bailey

ROLE MODEL PROFILES

VIDEO



### Medicinal Chemist: Becca Cuellar

ROLE MODEL PROFILES

Find more role model videos at: [scigirlsconnect.org/resource\\_topic/role-model-profiles](https://scigirlsconnect.org/resource_topic/role-model-profiles)

# Using Role Model Videos in Your Program Before You Press Play

- Watch Videos Ahead of Time
- Introduce key themes and vocabulary.
- Focus learning with questions or key ideas.
- Make it Meaningful





# Using Role Model Videos in Your Program While You Watch

- Press Pause
- Watch-Think-Share
- Pair with an activity!



# Activities!



[clearinghouse.starnetlibraries.org](http://clearinghouse.starnetlibraries.org)

[pbslearningmedia.org/collection/scigirls](http://pbslearningmedia.org/collection/scigirls)



Questions?

