

PLANNING GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

More than just one day, Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day is a movement that shows 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. [See if one is near you.](#)
- Don't see an event near you? Try an internet search for Girl 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](#).
- 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. [This competition](#) asks kids to imagine, research, design, and create cities of the future.

STEP 3: Create special Girl Day programs.

- Plan a field trip to see the [Dream Big](#) film. This innovative film features three women engineers who show audiences how engineering influences all parts of our lives in creative and exciting ways. After watching, ask students to consider how engineering is part of their everyday lives.
- Explore the Discover Engineering 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 tips on [preparing for college](#).
- 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. Use [this workshop](#) to get your student thinking about engineering careers.

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. Helpful tip: University students are great role models as they bridge the age gap between middle/ high school students and working engineers.

STEP 4: Set up a classroom or afterschool visit (continued).

STEP A: Find an engineer (continued).

- 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.
- 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. Be sure it is an activity your class hasn't already done. 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
 - Wraps-up and relates it back to her or his job
 - Answers any remaining questions

STEP 5: Share your plans.

Announce your events on DiscoverE's [events calendar](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) (#GirlDay2019).