



SHARE YOUR

Career

WITH YOUR KIDS

Hey, parents, grandparents,
and guardians — you have an
awesome job!

But do your kids know?



STEM with LM invites you to talk with your kids and grandkids, share your experiences, and inspire them to get excited about science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). We've got a few tips that will help your student think, talk, and act like a scientist.

Research indicates that family engagement has a positive impact on student learning. You have the opportunity to help motivate the young minds in your life to explore STEM careers.

Three ideas to help share your work with your student:

- 1 Have your student interview you about your career. See below for possible interview questions.
- 2 With supervisor approval, invite your student to present a safety share or even a portion of a topic in a staff meeting. Work with them to develop the idea, conduct some research, and plan out the presentation.
- 3 When possible, ask your student to review your actual work. Photos, maps, and graphs are perfect. Ask what they observe or what they notice and then have a conversation about it.



Parent/Grandparent/Guardian tips:

- 1 Think of yourself as a guide or facilitator. While young children are naturally curious about the world, adults play an important role to foster, guide, and build on their interests. (The University of Chicago and Erikson Institute [provide](#) some helpful guiding principles when facilitating STEM curriculum.)
- 2 **Remember:** This is about them, not you. The goal is to get children thinking critically, sharing experiences, asking questions, and making observations.

Also, remember: These are students, not your coworkers. Keep it conversational and stay out of the weeds.
- 3 Keep your answers and comments brief but encourage your curious student to ask more questions.
- 4 Avoid jargon and abbreviations.
- 5 Be open minded, patient, and encouraging.
- 6 Most importantly, have fun!

STUDENT INTERVIEW WITH A STEM EXPERT

Hey, kids — what better way to learn about STEM than by talking to an expert?

Yes, your teachers are amazing, but there's probably someone else — maybe somebody who lives in your house — who's also doing some amazing work to make the world a better place.

Student instructions:

- 1 Find a STEM expert. Chances are that this person is very close to you. You might already know them as mom, dad, grandma, grandpa or guardian.
- 2 Use the questions below to interview them about their work. If something doesn't make sense, ask them to explain it or, better yet, have them show you. Ask to see photos, maps, graphs, and figures.
- 3 Take notes, record a video, or document the interview in whatever way you prefer. Report back to a teacher what you learned.



Questions:

- 1 What's your favorite thing about your job?
- 2 What's the main purpose of your job? Why is it important?
- 3 What kind of problems do you solve in your job?
- 4 What subjects from school do you use most in your job?
- 5 If you could go back to my grade again, what subjects do you wish you learned more about?
- 6 What projects are you working on today? Can you show me?
- 7 What advice would you give to a student interested in your career?