

Tips for Guest Speaking/Story Telling to a K-5 Audience

- Make a personal connection to dispel stereotypes.
 - As a role model, you need to build rapport. When students personally connect with you, they'll be more interested and invested in the experience. Share personal stories about family, friends, and hobbies. This connection works both ways; invite the students to share information about themselves and draw on their interests in your discussions and activities.
 - Share personal stories, photos, talk about your family/friends
- Make it hands-on and keep it interactive
 - Help students see themselves in STEM by engaging them in a hands-on activity that offers a snapshot of your work. While the activity may not be exactly what you do on the job, active engagement is a way for students to experience how to design projects and conduct investigations as well as to satisfy their curiosity about how things work in general. During the activity offer them the chance to explain what they are doing and learning. Be sure to highlight how creativity and teamwork are needed for success in the project and in STEM careers overall.
 - Start with an icebreaker, Introduce a collaborative activity,
 - Encourage participation with open-ended questions.
- Show the way: offer resources and academic guidance for right here, right now
 - Offer ideas about how students can access STEM learning opportunities at school and in their community. Describe your personal experiences with math and science classes, but also how you learned important things outside of school time. Leave them with websites and local programs for exploring studies and careers in your field.
 - Share ideas for resources that could help students prepare for STEM fields, Share resources for navigating STEM careers.
- Follow-up and invite feedback.
 - Ask the students for feedback to better understand the results of your efforts. Check-in with the teacher or event coordinator to learn ways that you can improve your next outreach effort. You'll also hear what worked, so you can build on your successes!
 - Ask for students' input on what they liked about the day and how you can improve, Schedule a call with the organizers of the event to find out what you did well.

Resources:

http://www.scigirlsconnect.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/SciGirls_RoleModel.pdf