

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Program for Women in Science and Engineering

Go Further is a one-day STEM conference for female-identifying students in grades 8-10.

Go Further strives to provide participants opportunities to:

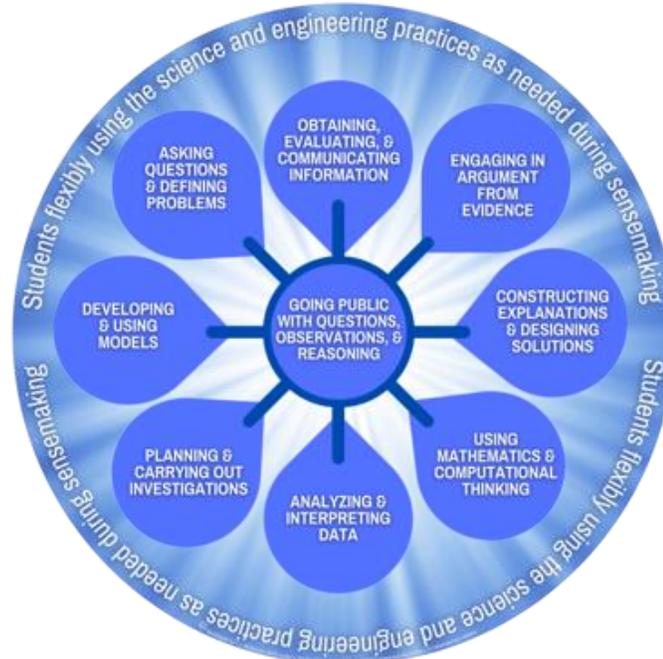
1. Explore and learn about career fields in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math through hands-on activities
2. Connect a STEM field to a major at Iowa State University
3. Interact with female-identifying STEM role models

Faculty, staff, student organizations and industry professionals are invited to present a 45 minute or 90 minute session. Each session should include a hands-on activity. Below is a sample breakdown of how sessions can be organized:

45-minute session Structure	90-minute session Structure
5-10 minutes: Intros/About you/Icebreaker	5-10 minutes: Intros/About you/Icebreaker
10 minutes: Setting up context	20 minutes: Setting up context
15-20 minutes: Activity	45-50 minutes: Activity
5-10 minutes: Wrap up/questions	10 minutes: Wrap up/Questions

Best Practices & Inclusive Language

- Ensure enough volunteers for your session; with 1-2 floaters to troubleshoot as students will be at differing ability levels
- Ask students to put away cell phones or consider having students use their phones to engage with the activity (i.e. poll everywhere)
- Small prizes (candy, stickers) for answering questions or winning a design challenge or competition can be helpful in keeping students engaged
- Keep safety measures in mind.
- Avoid acronyms and abbreviations.
- Keep presentations to a maximum of 15 minutes. The session should focus on the activity.
- Practice your session ahead of time with test groups (students, friends, etc.) to work out timing and identify any issues.
- Remember, students will be at differing ability and knowledge levels.
- If you use images of people in your presentation, be sure to include images that are representative of various social identities.
- Focus on Figuring Out instead of Learning About: Develop your activity so students are figuring out some aspect of an interesting scientific phenomenon (check out [Phenomenon Website](#) for examples) or exploring engineering problems or designs.
- Engage students in doing one or more science/engineering practices



- If your session involves students designing something, build in multiple levels of challenges or revisions.
- Link your activity/topic to STEM careers/majors at ISU
- Share a bit of your story
 - How did you choose your major/career? What is the best part/what do you love about it?
 - How did you persist when something in your major/college/life was hard?
 - Who have been your female-identifying role models? What did you learn from them?
- Use gender inclusive language such as “you all” or “folks” or “everyone.” **Avoid using “you guys.”**
- Ask critical thinking questions such as
 - What’s your evidence?
 - How did you arrive at that conclusion?
 - Does it always work that way? Under what conditions would it not work that way?
 - What did your partner say? How did your partner explain that?
 - Do you agree or disagree and why?
 - Take that idea and push it a little further
 - What does this remind you of in other parts of your life?
 - Has anyone seen something like this? In what ways did it work the same/was it different?