

Vote Like a Girl 2020

STEAM Activities

Women have a long history in many different fields, even if their accomplishments have not been recognized. Spend some time exploring amazing women in different fields, and then channel their legacies with some of these activities.

STEAM Activity: [Egg Drop Challenge](#)

When she was still in college, [Tiera Guinn Fletcher](#) began working with NASA to develop a rocket to travel to Mars. Use your knowledge of engineering to master the [Egg Drop Challenge](#). Using popsicle sticks, balloons, foam, cardboard, tissue paper, bubble wrap, tape, string, and any other household supplies you can find, create a safe vessel to keep an egg from breaking when you drop it. Test yourself to see how few materials you can use and how high you can drop your “eggship” from without the egg breaking.

STEAM Activity: [Galaxies of Slime](#)

[Vera Rubin](#) discovered the existence of dark matter, which holds the universe together. Create your own universe with [space-themed slime](#). You might make it black and add silver glitter for stars, replicating Rubin’s “dark matter.” Or you can make blue, purple, and orange and swirl the colors together, like our [galaxy](#) the Milky Way. You can even add larger objects of different sizes, like marbles or pingpong balls, to represent the different planets and moons in our solar system.

STEAM Activity: [LEGO Maze Coding](#)

In the 1800s, [Ada Lovelace](#) described the steps of what would become computer programming. Computer programs simplify instructions to easy-to-follow steps. Can you build a maze and help a LEGO figure walk through the maze without hitting a dead end?

Arts Activity: Poetry with a Message

[Emma Lazarus](#) used poetry to bring attention to social injustice, particularly in “[The Great Colossus](#)”. What is the poem about? Write a poem about an issue or event today that is important to you.

Arts Activity: [Subversive Cross-Stitching](#)

An important part of a girl's education in the 1700s and 1800s was learning how to do needlework, including sewing and embroidery. Needlework was a skill that women would be expected to have when they married. Girls and young women often showed off their talents in "samplers," which included letters, numbers, and decorations. Today, these [samplers](#) are collected by museums around the country.

Many women still practice different needlework styles, and many of them now use this traditionally feminine art form to share [feminist messages](#). Create your own radical message, with needlework or with fabric markers. What message will you share?

Arts Activity: **Creating a Portrait**

[Frida Kahlo](#) created stunning self-portraits that revealed her hopes, fears, feelings, and experiences. [Amy Sberald](#) uses portraiture as a way of commenting on race and racial identity. Using the visual arts (painting, drawing, collage), create a portrait, either of yourself or of a woman you admire. What will you choose to have the person doing in the artwork? What message will you communicate through your art?