X-STEM All Access – *Shattering STEM Stereotypes*

*Christina H. Koch* and *Bobak Ferdowsi*

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**TEACHER & PARENT TIPS:**

Prior to the video, ask students to read the speaker biographies on our [website](#). To keep students engaged during the session, we have listed some key facts to look for during the talk, listed below. In addition, ask the students to answer a list of follow up questions for a deeper analysis of the subject matter. Some sample questions are listed on page 2 of this worksheet.

Looking for more talks? Our video library filters the videos by subject matter to make the selection process easier for your lesson plans. Access the video library here: X-STEM Videos | Festival Videos

**Note:** If you or your students would like to engage in the chat feature during the presentations to ask speakers questions during the live talk, be sure to click on the “chat” icon on the upper right hand side.

**ENGAGEMENT & FACT QUESTIONS:**

**Christina H. Koch - read her biography before the talk [here](#).**

For what does Christina hold the record? Bonus: How many days did she spend in space?

What was Christina’s position at the International Space Station?

Christina was part of a historical event for women in STEM and all women. What was it?

**Bobak Ferdowsi - read his biography before the talk [here](#).**

Where did the *Curiosity Mission* go?

What is Bobak’s nickname and why is he happy to accept it?

Bobak is a flight director at NASA’s JPL. What does JPL stand for?
REFLECTION AND ANALYSIS QUESTIONS:

Who did you learn about in this session? What is his/her name and what kind of work does he/she do?

Why is this speaker’s work important?

How does his/her work have a direct impact on your life?

Tell me what you remember most from the speaker’s presentation? What did you find most interesting?

What other kinds of jobs can you think of in his/her area of work?

Are you interested in learning more about this topic?

Can you predict what will change about this topic in the future? How will this impact your life?

If you could ask this speaker anything, what would it be?

Pick one fact from this talk and do your own follow up research. Provide a list of what you have learned.

BONUS Options:

While a Research Associate for the US Antarctic Program, Christina served on the Ocean & Glacier Search & Rescue Team and the Firefighting Team. Do some research about what is required of someone serving on these types of teams in such an environment. Write a one-page essay detailing these requirements and how this experience may have helped prepare her for her time in space?

Take a deeper dive and research Bobak and his accomplishments. Write a one-page essay expressing how Bobak challenges your idea of an engineer and how his story inspires you personally.