X-STEM All Access – Shattering STEM Stereotypes

Dr. Knatokie Ford and Kim Swennen

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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:

Dr. Knatokie Ford- read her biography before the talk here.

What project did Dr. Ford lead during her time as a Senior Policy Advisor for President Obama?

Stereotype __ __ __ __ __ is the fear of conforming to stereotypes about one's social group.

Dr. Ford mentioned several fields of work for those with STEM skills. List two. Bonus: List four.

Kim Swennen- read her biography before the talk here.

Name two of the four myths about engineers that you see on film and TV. Bonus: List all four.

What is something new you learned from this presentation about being a software engineer?

Should you be afraid of “failure” or “mistakes” as an engineer? Why or why not?

Name a character, involved in science, from a TV show or movie (STEM). Can you envision yourself doing what they do? Why or why not?
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:

Interview a STEM professional (active or retired) that shattered / is shattering STEM stereotypes. Write a one-page essay about them and how this interview impacted your own thinking about stereotypes.

Shattering stereotypes begins with us as individuals. Write a one-page essay explaining why an individual can make a difference and what you personally can do to participate in shattering STEM stereotypes.