Welcome to the Girls RISEnet monthly newsletter, bringing you information on RISEnet resources, and our community to advance your work in creating girl-friendly science and engineering learning environments.

Introduction

This upcoming October 13-19th is Earth Science Week! This year’s theme is “Mapping Our World.” To help get ready for Earth Science Week you can also participate in the 4-H National Youth Science Day on October 9th, with a focus on geospatial technology, entitled “Maps and Apps.” Explore our world and learn how to problem solve!

Title IX has turned 40! Let’s celebrate how far we’ve come as a nation, while still pushing for increased equity overall, especially in STEM fields. Below are some news stories that reflects the growth:

- President Obama has nominated Dr. France Córdova to become the next director of the National Science Foundation (NSF). If confirmed, she will be the first Latina NSF director, and she is not new to being the first! She was the first female chief scientist for NASA and the first woman president for Purdue University. Córdova will be NSF’s second female director; the first was Dr. Rita Colwell (1998-2004). Her background is in astrophysics where she received degrees from Stanford University and the California Institute of Technology. She is a great role model for women in STEM.
- LEGO has launched a new mini-figure: the Scientist, and she’s a woman! Previously, LEGO has marketed itself mainly to boys, but there has been a marked increase in girl-friendly games and figures. The Scientist, named Professor C. Bodin, breaks down traditional gender stereotypes even further because she is not covered in pink.
- Has America’s racial geography changed? Are we still segregated? These are the types of questions that can be explored by University of Virginia’s Racial Dot Map. The map has been featured in a National Geographic article that highlights five big takeaways. Explore the map yourself!

Upcoming Girls RISEnet events

Encouraging Girls as Makers
Date: 10/05/2013

AT A GLANCE

Apply for a minigrant to expand your programming for girls

For more information about Girls RISEnet, contact Cheryl Lani Juarez.

Click on this image to connect with your regional hub.

Other STEM Events and Opportunities

Association of Science-Technology Centers (ASTC)
2013 Conference, October 19-22nd, Albuquerque, NM.
Register now!

Invent it. Build it. Outreach event at SWE Annual Conference, October 26, 2013, Baltimore, MD.
Register to host an exhibit!

Engineering Education Service Center (EESC) 9th Annual Poster Contest. This year’s theme is “Engineering Innovation.”
Organization: Maryland Science Center

Engaging Girls in Technology II
Date: 10/05/2013
Organization: Maryland Science Center

Where are we, and how do we engage girls in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)?
Date: 10/07/2013
Organization: SciPort: Louisiana's Science Center

North Pacific RISEnet Regional Workshop
Date: 10/08/2013
Organization: Oregon Museum of Science and Industry

Engaging Girls in Science Technology Engineering and Math
Date: 11/2-3/2013
Organization: California Academy of Sciences in partnership with the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum

Designing STEM Programs that Engage Girls
Date: 01/17/2014
Organization: NYSci

Visit our showcase to learn more about recent Girls RISEnet activities

“Geek Boutique”
Date: July 8-12, 2013
Organization: Durango Discovery Museum

Explore the latest resources and research on engaging girls in STEM learning

Invent-abling: Enabling Inventiveness Through Craft
Interaction Design and Children: June 2013
Author: Sibel Guler and Michael Rule

Problem Solving And Creativity And Design: What Influence Do They Have On Girls’ Interest in STEM Subject Areas?
American Journal of Engineering Education: Spring 2013
Author: Robyn Cooper and Carol Heaverlo

Museum Discovery Institute: Girls Designing in Cyberspace
Journal of Virtual Worlds Research: June 2013
Author: Suzanne Kolodziej et al.

STEAM-Powered Computing Education: Using E-Textiles to Integrate the Arts and STEM
Computer: September 2013
Author: Kylie Peppler

COMPUGIRLS’ Standpoint: Culturally Responsive Computing and Its Effect on Girls of Color
Urban Education: September 2013
Find new engineering activities

If a picture says a thousand words, then videos are invaluable. The Teaching Channel’s motto is “Great Teaching, Inspiring Classrooms” and these classrooms truly are inspiring! PBS has also launched a new video series entitled Is School Enough? In this series they explore the power of video game design, building robots, internships, and much more. So get inspired and find great ideas for your classroom!

Looking for resources on how to teach engineering? Check out Engineering Education Service Center, they provide books and kits that can be used in the classroom and they also provide information on summer camps, competitions, and scholarships.