STEM-Inspired Mentor (video-conferencing edition)

As a STEM-Inspired (classroom video-conferencing) mentor you’ll spark the STEM interest of elementary and middle school learners by sharing the story of what ignited your curiosity and put you on a path to become a STEM professional. Help shape the future STEM workforce by telling your story.

About this opportunity

STEM Inspired pulls back the curtain to reveal the people behind today’s innovation in STEM. Allowing children a glimpse of the people behind the work changes minds and even career trajectories. A series of four 20-30 minute STEM mentoring video-conferencing interactions with a classroom in Ventura County creates a lasting impact with children by providing a role model to emulate and helps educators to understand how today’s STEM teaching and learning influences tomorrow’s STEM professionals.

Who we are looking for

We are looking for approachable and candid volunteers who are passionate about what they do and want to spark that enthusiasm in others. We would love to encourage STEM professionals who reflect the underrepresented populations we need to attract.

Requirements

A willingness to share your story and encourage the next generation of STEM professionals. We’ll connect your good thinking and experience with thoughtful educators who act as classroom facilitators for the series.

Commitment
A series of four weekly 20-30 minute STEM mentoring video-conferencing interactions (two hours max). A series orientation and first meeting with the classroom educator at the very beginning. A culminating event at the end brings together project partners to celebrate, debrief and figure out next steps to ensure lasting impact. Details will be provided. Participating educators have an opportunity to apply for a mini grant to support the integration of ideas and/or strategies from the mentoring sessions into classroom practice.

**How to prepare**

We will be there each step of the way. Dig out your inner 9-14 year-old and be ready to share your stories of first spark of interest and mentors that captured your admiration. We’ll let you know what to expect and the STEM mentoring video-conferencing interactions have structured prompts to help get things rolling.