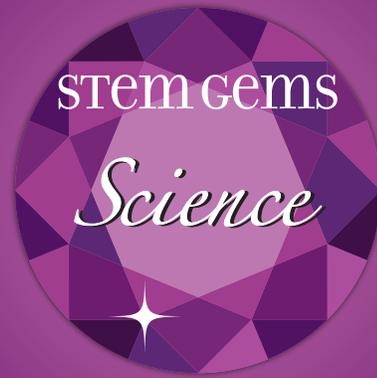


STEM Gem Career:
THEORETICAL PHYSICIST

STEM Gem:
LISA RANDALL

"If people learn more about physics and are aware of it, then they won't be so afraid of it."



Is a career in Theoretical Physics in your future? Maybe you haven't taken physics in school yet so you're not sure. That's okay. STEM Gem Lisa Randall loves pursuing the unanswered questions about our universe. Read her story and digest. Watch one of her online videos. Then, with your STEM Gems Tribe, **discuss, explore, reflect,** and **act.**

DISCUSS

1. How do Physicists like Professor Randall make a difference in the world?
2. What experiences did Professor Randall have growing up that led to her pursuit of a career as a Physicist?
3. What is Professor Randall's educational background?
4. What are some of the challenges that Professor Randall faced along her journey and in her career?
5. What are some of Professor Randall's key accomplishments?
6. What inspired you most about Professor Randall's story?
7. Professor Randall says: *"If people learn more about physics and are aware of it, then they won't be so afraid of it."* What aspect of physics, or any other science subject, scares you? What can you do to learn more so you won't be so afraid?

EXPLORE

1. What colleges and universities have programs in Physics?
2. What types of jobs are available for Physicists?
3. What companies/organizations hire Physicists?
4. What books, television programs, magazines, or social media blogs support women in Physics?
5. Name at least two other women Physicists. How are they similar to Professor Randall? How are they different?
6. What professional organizations support women in Physics? Do they have programs established for middle and high school students to learn more about this career?

REFLECT

Professor Randall argues that women need more opportunities and tools for research. Have you ever done any scientific research? What are you curious to learn more about beyond your textbook knowledge? Can you think up a research project that will help you to explore your areas of interest?

ACT

It's time to step outside your comfort zone. Name one concrete thing you will do before your next meeting that will have you one step closer to becoming a STEM Gem. Blog about it. Include it in your written or photo journal. Hold yourself accountable.

Work hard. Be brave. Stay curious.

BE A GEM!

Stephanie Espy

P.S. I'd love to hear about your journey. Share on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram and tag @STEMGemsBook #STEMGemsTribe, or email me at tribe@STEMGemsBook.com.