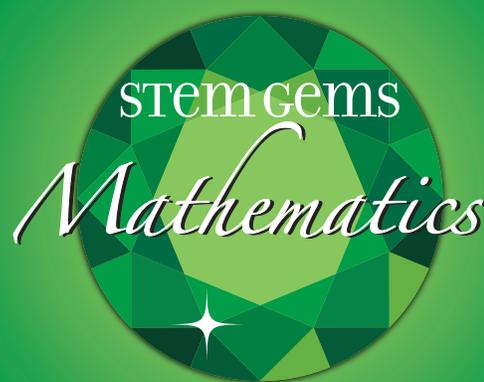


STEM Gem Career:  
**DATA SCIENTIST**

STEM Gem:  
**RACHEL SCHUTT**

*“My father told me that I should study math even though it was hard, because it’s the hard things we should tackle in life. That made sense to me.”*



Is a career as a Data Scientist in your future? With skyrocketing job growth, the field of Data Science is hot! At a global corporation called News Corp that owns many of the world’s biggest media enterprises, STEM Gem Rachel Schutt manages a team of 100 people on everything data. Part of her job is using user data to build a sustainable business model. Watch one of her videos. Then, with your STEM Gems Tribe, **discuss, explore, reflect,** and **act.**

## **DISCUSS**

1. How do Data Scientists like Dr. Schutt make a difference in the world?
2. What experiences did Dr. Schutt have that led to her pursuit of a career as a Data Scientist?
3. What is Dr. Schutt’s educational background?
4. What are some of the challenges that Dr. Schutt faced along her journey?
5. What are some of Dr. Schutt’s key accomplishments?
6. What inspired you most about Dr. Schutt’s story?
7. Dr. Schutt says: *“My father told me that I should study math even though it was hard, because it’s the hard things we should tackle in life. That made sense to me.”* Why do you think Dr. Schutt’s father gave her this advice? Why do you think we should tackle the hard things in life?

## EXPLORE

1. To pursue a career as a Data Scientist, what college majors should you consider? What colleges and universities have programs in these areas?
2. What companies hire Data Scientists? What is the salary range for a Data Scientist?
3. What classes should you take in middle and high school to prepare for college and a career as a Data Scientist?
4. Name at least two other women Data Scientists. How are they similar to Dr. Schutt? How are they different?
5. What professional organizations support women in Data Science? What programs are available for middle and high school students?

## REFLECT

In middle school, Dr. Schutt participated in MATHCOUNTS, an organization that strives to engage students in fun, challenging program to expand their academic opportunities. Do you participate on your school's MATHCOUNTS team, or comparable group with a similar mission? How have you benefited from being a part of this group?

## 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](mailto:tribe@STEMGemsBook.com).