

STEM Gem Career:
HOLOGRAPHY and VIRTUAL REALITY
TECHNOLOGIST

STEM Gem:
MARY LOU JEPSEN

"Half the kids in the world don't have electricity at home. Eighty percent of the schools that we're going into don't have electricity. So we had to design a laptop that was also the infrastructure."



Is a career in Holography and Virtual Reality in your future? Can you imagine a day when we'll be able to transmit our ideas directly to computers? STEM Gem Mary Lou Jepsen can. She is at the forefront of some of the most cutting edge inventions of our generation. Read her story and digest. Consider watching one of her videos. Then, with your STEM Gems Tribe, **discuss, explore, reflect,** and **act.**

DISCUSS

1. How do Holography and Virtual Reality Technologists make a difference in the world?
2. What experiences did Dr. Jepsen have that led to her pursuit of a career as a Holography and Virtual Reality Technologist?
3. What is Dr. Jepsen's educational background?
4. What are some of the challenges that Dr. Jepsen faced along her journey?
5. What are some of Dr. Jepsen's key accomplishments?
6. What inspired you most about Dr. Jepsen's story?
7. Dr. Jepsen says: *"Half of the kids in the world don't have electricity at home. Eighty percent of the schools that we're going into don't have electricity. So we had to design a laptop that was also the infrastructure."* How does Dr. Jepsen's work impact the world?

EXPLORE

1. To pursue a career in Holography and Virtual Reality, what college majors should you consider?
2. What colleges and universities have programs in these areas?
3. What companies hire Holography and Virtual Reality Technologists? What is the salary range?
4. Name at least two other women in Holography and Virtual Reality Technology. How are they similar to Dr. Jepsen? How are they different?
5. What professional organizations support women in Holography and Virtual Reality? Do they have conferences, lectures, or mentorship programs available for middle and high school students?

REFLECT

Dr. Jepsen has a vivid imagination, which allows her to think and go beyond and solve some of the world's most pressing challenges. She's an experimentalist at heart. What can you do to think beyond? To go beyond? To become an experimentalist at heart?

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.