# Women in STEM

"Any society that fails to harness the energy and creativity of its women is at a huge disadvantage in the modern world."

—Tian Wei

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WHAT ARE WE TALKING ABOUT? Why do women tend to stray away from higher education in STEM and STEM field careers?

2 FEATURES OF THE PIPELINE Building on a Pipeline examining what prevents women from pursuing math in higher ed and beyond

#### **DATA ANALYSIS**

Explore data across school and career spectrum including tools of data analysis

#### IMPACTFUL CONVERSATIONS

Where do we go from here? Discuss potential solutions at all levels.



### In 1970, women made up 8% of STEM occupations.

Today, women make up 27% of STEM occupations.



#### The STEM Gender Gap

Take some time to generate your own Ideas of where some of these discrepancies come from.

**Essential Question:** Why do women stray from higher education in STEM and STEM careers?

Afterwards, we will look at some data to further push our thinking and create a "leaky pipeline" model.



# Why do women stray from higher education in STEM and STEM careers?

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### **Timeline** Data

We can break the school/career timeline into 6 stages:

- Elementary School
- Middle School
- High School
- Undergrad
- Grad School
- Career

Look at the Excel file with some data across these stages.

What surprises you? Why do you think some of the disparities exist at each stage? Build a "leaky pipeline" to identify possible issues at each stage and what data you would want to investigate.

### Example: Leaky Laundry Pipeline





# What initiatives could be implemented to fix the leak of women in STEM at every stage?

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"No country can ever truly flourish if it stifles the potential of its women and deprives itself of the contribution of half its citizens." —Michelle Obama