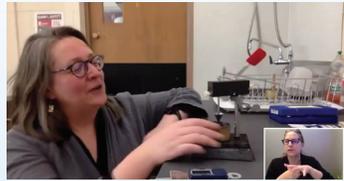


STEM Workforce Stories for Adolescents Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (SWS)

Question: How effective are stories from STEM professionals who are deaf or hard of hearing at interesting our audience in STEM and a STEM career?

Audience

Adolescents ages 10-19 who are deaf or hard of hearing and use English or American Sign Language for communication.



Outcomes

Stories from a Microbiologist; Geoscientist, Biologist, Pharmacologist; Nurse Practitioner; UX Interaction Designer; High School Teacher; and Field Biologist are complete and posted.

An 8-step process for recording the videos with the STEM professional, Bridge Multimedia, and TERC teams located in geographically separate locations was created and implemented. It included: a list of questions for the professional; technical rehearsal; interview recording; creation of a rough-cut version, creation of an edited rough-cut version, division into chapters and integration of introductory and summary information, integration of images and closed captions, and final mastering.



A universally designed Web site is complete. Users can see the story in sign with captions; listen to it English with or without sign interpretation or voice overlay; increase or decrease text size, loudness, and contrast; and replay all or parts. They can submit questions to the professional and view answers. Transcripts can be viewed online or downloaded.

Next Steps

Conduct a formative evaluation at the Boys & Girls Club of Lynn and in homes to learn:

1. How does our audience integrate and use the stories?
2. How do parents and club leaders use the stories?
3. What kinds of outcomes are made possible in terms of interest and engagement in STEM and pursuing a STEM career?
4. What modifications and additions are needed?
5. What dissemination strategies would maximize use?

Analyze data, write a report, share findings, and plan subsequent research and development.

Project Team

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Tara Robillard—Lead Researcher
Lisa Miller—Web Designer
Bill Nave—Project Evaluator

Collaborators

Bridge Multimedia
Boys & Girls Club of Lynn
Gallaudet University Regional Center
Northeast Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services

Website and videos at:

<https://signsci.terc.edu/SWS/index.html>

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