

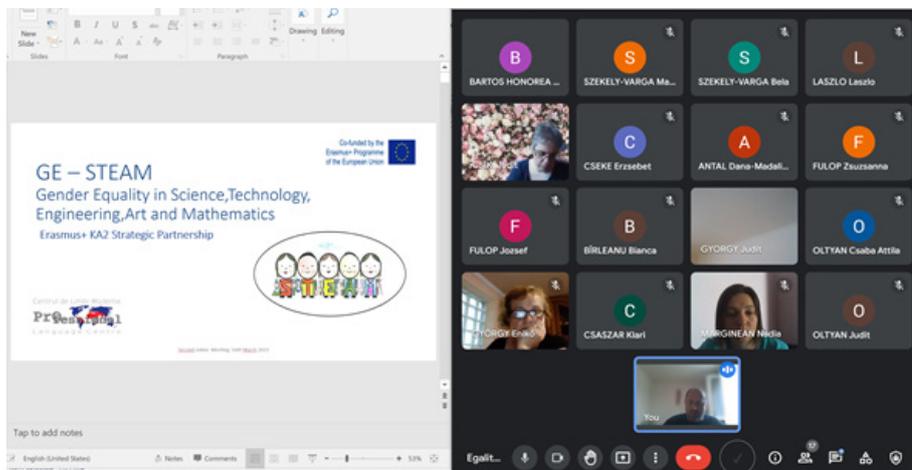


# GE-STEAM

Newsletter 2  
Summer 2021

## WELCOME!

Hello and welcome to the GE-STEAM project. Now that you are here, let us take you through some of the key topics and unique educational tools we are developing in our team!



## Assessing Teacher's Gender Bias

GE-STEAM is a pioneering project that aims to support more girls to pursue further study and even careers in the STEAM - Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics - sectors.

To ensure the robustness of our approach to addressing gender inequality and bias in STEAM, our partners are currently developing a self-assessment survey that will support pre-school, primary and lower secondary school teachers to assess their own level of gender bias in how they teach STEAM subjects to girls.

A first prototype of this survey can be tested at this link:

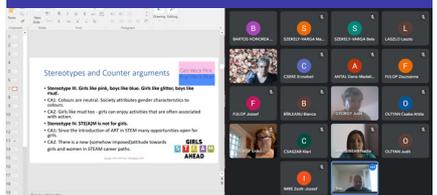
<http://gesteamplatform.eu/>

Through this self-assessment, teachers will be supported to question some of the gender stereotypes that we find when researching why girls typically do not excel like boys do in STEAM careers.

We would be very happy to receive your feedback on this prototype! With the full version to follow over the summer months of 2021.

## Supporting Girls into STEAM!

Once teachers have assessed their own level of gender bias, our intention is them to support teachers to provide gender-neutral learning experiences for girls and boys in their classes. Through assessing their own gender bias, teachers will be asked to assess how this can impact their teaching style and practice.



To this end, GE-STEAM partners have developed a series of lesson plans that teachers can use to increase the motivation and participation of girls in STEAM subjects; and, to support students to question some of the gender stereotypes that surround us in these fields.

### Stereotypes and Counter arguments

- Stereotype I. Girls show an aptitude for art and humanities.
- CA1. Girls have the potential to excel in STEAM subjects.
- CA2. There are many successful role models for girls in STEAM.
- Stereotype II. Boys show an aptitude how things work - linked to engineering work.
- CA 1. Boys are given more opportunities to construct, build and fix things. (This is in the nature of toys they are encouraged to play with).
- CA 2. Many women work in engineering too. (There are still opportunities for girls to work in this sector).



Through the lesson plans and digital resources that we will present online for teachers, our aim is to support teachers to learn the counter-arguments to these gender stereotypes; and also, to adapt their teaching practices and activities to ensure that more girls are motivated to pursue further study and careers in STEAM.

## Stereotypes and Counter arguments

Girls Wear Pink.  
Boys Wear Blue.

- **Stereotype III. Girls like pink, boys like blue. Girls like glitter, boys like mud.**
- CA1: Colours are neutral. Society attributes gender characteristics to colours.
- CA2: Girls like mud too - girls can enjoy activities that are often associated with action.
- **Stereotype IV. STE(A)M is not for girls.**
- CA1: Since the introduction of ART in STEM many opportunities open for girls.
- CA2: There is a new (somehow imposed) attitude towards girls and women in STEAM career paths.



Second online meeting: 18th March 2020

## Our Partners Meet!

The GE-STEAM project brings together educational media organisations and schools from Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Spain and Ireland. Together, we are collaborating to develop all of the educational content mentioned that will help to address gender imbalance in STEAM.

All partners met online on 7th June 2021, to discuss our work so far on developing lesson plans, and to plan our next steps in collecting and producing new resources for teachers.

If COVID-19 allows us, all partners are looking forward to meeting for the first time in person in Ireland in October 2021!

## Want to know more?

To find out more about this innovative school education project, please find and follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GE-STEAM-105432678211682> or visit our project website for more details: <https://gesteamproject.eu/>



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