

*STEM-based
outdoor
program at
Mount St.
Helens
encourages
and supports
the next
generation of
scientists*



GeoGirls Rock!



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5 days of inspiration at Mount St. Helens

Washington and Oregon science enthusiasts submit applications for the program:

- 25 girls graduating from 7th and 8th grades
- 5 girls graduating from 10th-12th grades
- 4 female middle school science teachers





GeoScientists / Leaders

In 2018, scientists, project leaders and mentors represented:

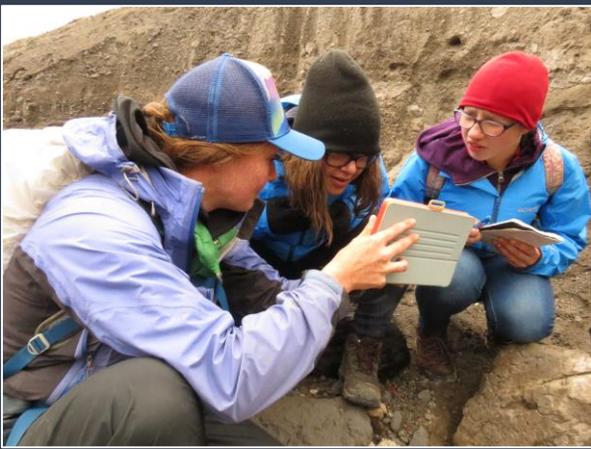
- 2 federal agencies
- 2 state agencies
- 1 county agency
- 1 city
- 6 universities
- 4 middle schools
- 4 private geotech companies
- 1 non-profit





Scientific Program

- Hands-on projects using scientific equipment.
- Driven by research and monitoring programs.
- Led by women scientists in the government, private sector and academia.
- GeoGirls analyze data and write up results in a blog and present findings to parents.
- GeoGirls interview women scientists and learn about careers.
- GeoGirls have fun and build friendships.





Mission / Goal

GeoGirls emerge with a stronger understanding and connection to Earth systems and feel confident in choosing careers in science, technology, engineering, math or other STEM-related field.





GeoGirls Survey Results (2018)

2018 Program	Pre-Program	Post-Program
Know about volcanic hazards	34% undecided / did not know	100% somewhat / definitely
Value conducting science outside	30% undecided / did not know	100% somewhat / definitely
Know how to collect and study scientific data	17% did not know	100% somewhat / definitely
Good at science	38% did not agree / undecided	88% somewhat / definitely agree
See myself as a scientist	30% agree	50% agree
See myself as a leader	58% agree	85% agree



Results: Working with scientists expands GeoGirls' perspectives on career options

Before the program:
*geologist,
volcanologist,
paleontologist,
teacher/educator,
physicist.*

After the program: same as previous,
plus *hydrologist, emergency
manager, marine geologist, landslide
scientist, park ranger, data analyst,
ground deformation monitor, drone
pilot, geochemist, lab coordinator,
lobbyist, international response team
member, oil industry scientist.*



Results: Working with women scientists helped or inspired me to...

- *I learned to be a scientist and be really passionate about what I love.*
- *Don't be afraid to ask questions and be a leader.*
- *I learned to be myself and not to care of what people think and to just follow my dreams and goals in life.*
- *I learned how powerful women can be.*
- *It inspired me to believe in myself more.*
- *It helped me to see science in a girl's point of view.*
- *This week taught me that I really appreciate being outside and having a break from daily technology.*



Results: In the future, I can use science to make a difference in my community by...

- *Inspiring others like the women here did to me. Showing others what science is about and why it is so interesting.*
- *Being another woman in science.*
- *Always being aware of what's going on.*
- *Uncovering the truth behind natural mysteries that help people see the world differently.*
- *Understanding how and when certain events happen and the best way to be prepared.*

Video of GeoGirls Interviews



The GeoGirls program is free to student participants through the generosity of numerous volunteers and private donors, along with grant funding (in 2018) from the American Association of University Women-Lewis County, Association of Women Geoscientists Foundation, Chevron, EMPOWER Women + Girls Clark County, National Science Foundation, Wheeler Foundation, and many private donors.



For more information
visit the Mount St. Helens Institute webpage,
www.mshinstitute.org/learn/for-parents/geogirls/geogirls.html
or email Liz Westby at lwestby@usgs.gov

