Who are the women involved in STEM?

> ## "The most rewarding part of my job is
> Providing my community with infrastructure that improves their way of life. I love watching my designs being built and then seeing people use them every day.

Jessica Dennien
Design Engineer
Gladstone Regional Council

Professional

Top-level responsibilities
As a design engineer, I investigate and design solutions to problems identified by my community, critically analyse options available and make recommendations to Council so changes can be made.

Day-to-day work and skills
Every day I work on a different problem. I use critical analysis, calculations and innovative thought processes to develop engineering designs that make my community safe, efficient and beautiful.

Personal

Current location and community
I have lived in Gladstone since I was three, which is why I'm so passionate about improving my community through engineering.
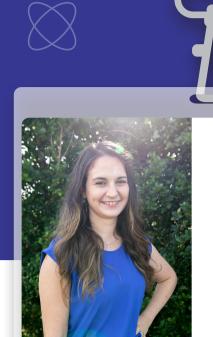
My interests and hobbies
I've been a dancer since I was three years old. I also love painting and sculpting – anything that I can get creative with. Camping and boating with my family is also a favourite past time.

I am passionate about
Continually improving my community through new and improved infrastructure.

What I would say to 16-year-old me
Never let anyone tell you that you can't have it all – you will grow to be a successful engineer and a wonderful mother. Don't worry about struggling to find a work–life balance, you will nail it!

I enjoyed graphics and design in high school. In Year 12 my teacher suggested I pursue engineering.

I studied a Bachelor of Engineering at Central Queensland University that included the opportunity for multiple industry placements.

During my degree I got a scholarship to do two industry placements and graduate work at Gladstone Regional Council.

I continued working for Council because I loved seeing the impact my work was having on my community.

In the future I would like to study further so that I can make decisions and sign off on designs.

THE GiST Girls in STEM Toolkit   thegist.edu.au

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