

# STEM Workforce Stories for Adolescents Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (SWS) / Award #2005511

**Community Partners:** Boys & Girls Club of Lynn, <https://www.bgcl.org/>; Bridge Multimedia Corporation, <https://bridgemultimedia.com/>  
**PI:** Judy Vesel, [judy\\_vesel@terc.edu](mailto:judy_vesel@terc.edu)

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

## Project Description

The STEM Workforce Stories (SWS) are a series of 8 career stories told by deaf and hard of hearing STEM professionals. They speak about how they got to where they are, their challenges, and their successes. Their purpose is for viewers to become aware of a range of STEM careers and to consider a STEM career as a possible option.

## Key Achievements

We have learned that the STEM career stories:

- 1) Increase our audience's knowledge of STEM careers.
- 2) Contributed to higher interest in STEM and a greater likelihood of pursuing a STEM career.
- 3) Generated an awareness of how to overcome challenges and obstacles along the way.
- 4) Increased hearing viewers respect for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing.

## Audience & Settings

**Audience:** Adolescents ages 10-19, who are deaf or hard of hearing and use either English or American Sign Language (ASL) as their preferred method of communication.

**Disciplinary Area:** STEM

**Learning Environment:** Informal learning settings (homes, Boys & Girls Club of Lynn); After-school settings ( Horace Mann School for the Deaf, Phoenix School for the Deaf).

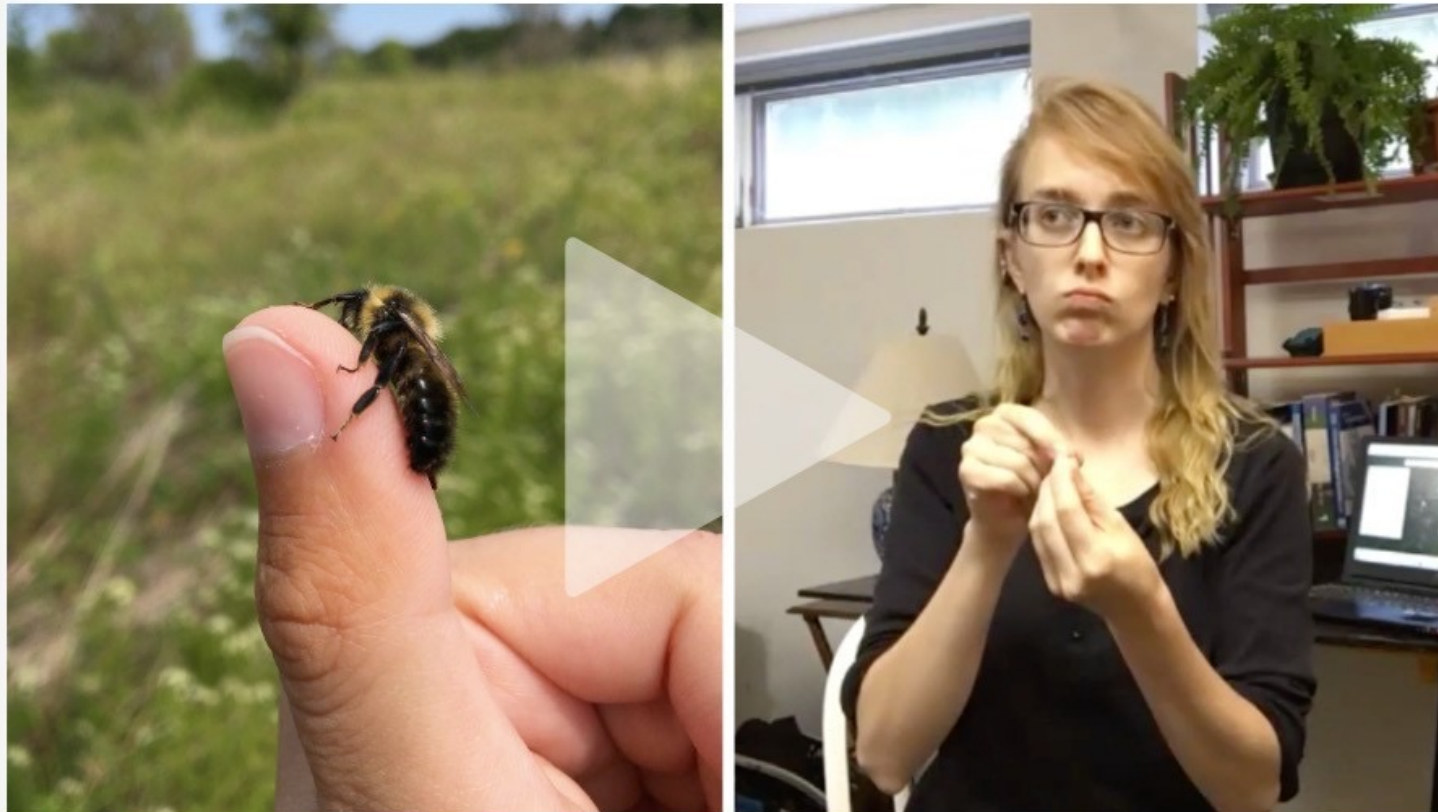
## Access & Inclusion

Students who are deaf or hard of hearing often have limited awareness of the range of STEM opportunities available. They do not see themselves pursuing and succeeding in STEM careers. The stories were developed to fill this gap.

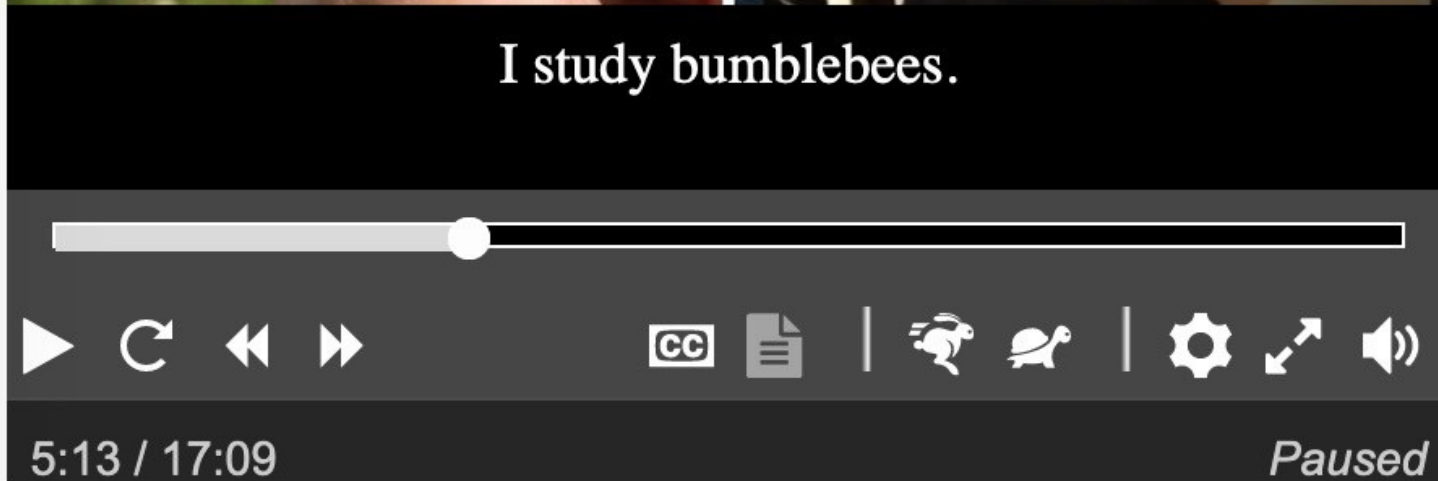


# STEM Workforce Stories for Adolescents Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (SWS) / Award #2005511

This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under grant [2229061](#). Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.



I study bumblebees.



 [Transcript](#)