

Success Stories in STEM:

S P A C E



Elizabeth Gabler

Achievement: One of the top young STEM innovators of the world

Elizabeth's love of science started when she was four years old. She got a peek at Mars through a small telescope. That interest is how she got to help design an asteroid-ramming spacecraft in college.

Elizabeth has always liked science. She studied astrophysics in high school. She became the youngest team member ever to work on NASA's DART team in college. It was work on a double asteroid re-direction test. The goal was to hit a small moon beside an asteroid and change its orbit. DART may show how to protect humans from an asteroid hitting Earth.

At age 24, Elizabeth works at a research nuclear reactor. She does testing for NASA, SpaceX, and the US Department of Defense. She mostly works on the Artemis program. This is a NASA-led spaceflight program. She's hoping to put boot prints back on the Moon and eventually on Mars!

2018. "Physics Student Helps Build Asteroid-Ramming Spacecraft." *Sacramento State News*, February 20, 2018.
Chelsea Frisbie. 2020. "How a 23-year-old became one of the top STEM innovators in the world." WMUR, October 7, 2020.