

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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To: **CHIEF DIRECTOR: DISTRICT OPERATIONS**
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SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL DAY OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SCIENCE

International Day of Women and Girls in Science is an annual observance that celebrates the achievements and contributions of women and girls in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). This day recognizes the importance of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the scientific community.

The day is observed on the **11 February** and was chosen to honor the birthday of **Marie Curie**, a pioneering physicist and chemist who made ground-breaking contributions to the fields of radioactivity and nuclear physics. She remains an inspirational figure for women in science.

The primary objectives of International Day of Women and Girls in Science include:

- **Promoting Gender Equality:** The day emphasizes the importance of achieving gender equality in STEM disciplines, encouraging equal opportunities for women and girls in scientific education and careers.
- **Highlighting Achievements:** It celebrates the accomplishments and innovations of women scientists, showcasing their contributions to research, technology, and scientific advancements.



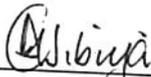
- **Inspiring Future Generations:** It serves as an inspiration for young girls and learners to pursue studies and careers in STEM fields, challenging stereotypes and biases.
- **Advocating for Inclusion:** The day calls for greater inclusion of women in decision-making processes and leadership roles within the scientific community.

The day can be observed by having the following activities at schools:

- **Conferences and Workshops:** Schools can arrange workshops for girl learners focusing on women's participation in STEM fields. These events provide a platform for discussions and knowledge sharing.
- **Role Model Recognition:** Women who have excelled in STEM are recognized and celebrated for their achievements, serving as role models for aspiring scientists. These women can be invited to schools to give encourage girl learners on careers and opportunities in science
- **STEM Outreach Programs:** Schools can conduct outreach programs aimed at encouraging young girls to explore STEM subjects, participate in hands-on experiments, and interact with female scientists.
- **Social Media Campaigns:** The day is promoted through social media campaigns, using hashtags like #WomenInScience and #GirlsInSTEM to share stories, profiles, and achievements of women in the field.

On this day, the Northern Cape Department of Education would like to encourage schools to celebrate the women and girls who have shattered barriers and paved the way for future generations of scientists. It is an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to gender equality in science and to encourage young minds to explore the endless possibilities of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM).

Kind Regards



G.D.SIBIYA

CHIEF DIRECTOR: CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT AND DELIVERY

