# Aussie STEM Stars



DISCOVER our world-leading SCIENTISTS and INVENTORS!

FOR 10-13 YEAR OLDS

Inspirational life stories of our (often unsung, even unknown!) STEM heroes quietly making a huge contribution to humans and the planet.

Written by award-winning children's authors

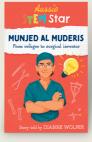
#### **TEACHER NOTES AVAILABLE**



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**Fiona Wood: Inventor of spray-on skin** by Cristy Burne

A plastic surgeon, Professor Fiona Wood revolutionised treatment for burns victims, improving hundreds of lives with her sprayon skin invention. She came to world-wide fame treating the Bali bombing burns victims. Her story shows us the value of dreams, hard work, and the courage to do what's right.



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#### Munjed Al Muderis: From refugee to surgical inventor by Dianne Wolfer

As a surgeon, Professor Munjed Al Muderis fled Saddam Hussein's regime in Iraq after refusing to cut off the ears of army deserters. Fleeing to Australia by boat, he was locked up in the notorious Curtain Detention Centre. He is now the world leader in osseointegration surgery and 'clever' prosthetics.

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STEM Stars

**JOHN LONG** 

## **Georgia Ward-Fear: Reptile biologist and explorer** by Claire Saxby

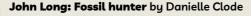
Georgia invented a taste-aversion technique to prevent native fauna from being decimated by the rampaging toxic cane toads in northern Australia. She has implemented many community conservation programs, including collaboration with indigenous ranger networks.



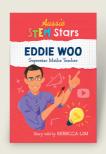
#### **Gisela Kaplan: Bird and primate scientist**by Emily Gale

Gisela Kaplan's story begins in post-war Germany. She endured many challenges that led to a profound curiosity, care and compassion for all living beings. Her brilliant and fascinating studies of Australian magpies, tawny frogmouths and other birds have exploded many myths about these species.





Professor John Long is an Australian palaeontologist who got hooked on collecting fossils at the age of 7. He has been on many expeditions to collect fossils throughout Australia, Antarctica and other parts of the world, making ground-breaking discoveries along the way.



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#### **Eddie Woo: Superstar Maths Teacher** by Rebecca Lim

Eddie Woo is a Maths teacher, education ambassador and advisor, author, TV Host and 'WooTube' sensation, and named as one of the World's Top 10 Teachers. He continues to be a champion of school-based integrated STEM education, allowing students to learn in creative and practical ways.

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FREE Teacher Notes available at:









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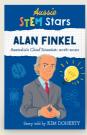




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#### Creswell Eastman: The man who saved a million brains by Penny Tangey

He discovered extensive Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD) in China, Tibet, southeast Asian countries, Australia and around the globe, which can cause mental disabilities and lower IQs and severe physical impairments. His team invented the test for pregnant women and children so they can be treated before it's a problem



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#### Alan Finkel: Australia's Chief Scientist 2016-2020 by Kim Doherty

Growing up in Melbourne as the son of immigrants who fled the Holocaust, Alan never imagined he would become the Chief Scientist of Australia, whose role was to advise the government on everything from the climate, to AI, to the pandemic. Alan's story is one of being brave, loving your family and always aiming for excellence.



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#### **Ajay Rane: Global crusader for women's health** by Deb Fitzpatrick

Professor Ajay Rane has devoted his research and practice to treating women with severe childbirth injuries in the some of the world's poorest countries. He is one of Australia's leading experts in his field and remains committed to educating the community about women's health.



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#### Emma Johnston: Marine biologist and TV presenter by Dee White

Professor Emma Johnston is an authority in marine ecology. Her team investigates the ecology of human impacts in marine systems, combining the diverse disciplines of ecology, microbiology and ecotoxicology. Her research is conducted in such diverse field environments as Sydney Harbour, Antarctica, the Great Barrier Reef and temperate Australian estuaries.





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#### **Skye Blackburn-Lang: Eating bugs for the planet** by Dianne Wolfer

Skye Blackburn-Lang always wanted to be an entomologist. Skye followed her dream and studied bug science as well as food science at university. As Australia's first farmer of edible insects, Skye and her trailblazing team, teach people that insects are an eco-friendly and delicious protein.



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### Veena Sahajwalla: 'Green' engineer and waste warrior by Julianne Negri

One person's trash is another person's treasure! Veena is literally revolutionalising the processes to transform waste into amazing products which she calls 'reforming', and that goes way beyond recycling! She and her team have invented machines that can do it on a micro level so you could have one in every suburb and town in Australia, and the world!



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#### Michelle Simmons: Quantum computing scientist by Nova Weetman

Professor Michelle Simmons is well-known for creating the field of atomic electronics. Her research group at UNSW is the only group worldwide that can create atomically precise devices in silicon. It was also the first to develop a working 'perfect' single-atom transistor and the narrowest conducting doped wires in silicon.

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