International Day of Women and Girls in Science is celebrated on February 11 every year after the United Nations General Assembly adopted the resolution on December 22, 2015. The day recognizes the critical role women and girls play in science and technology. It is supported by UNESCO and UN-Women in collaboration with institutions and civil society partners aiming to promote women and girls in science.

The day is an opportunity to promote and celebrate full and equal access to and participation in science for women and girls. Gender equality is a global priority for UNESCO. The support of girls and women through education is essential so that they could reach their full ability, which will be beneficial to all humanity.

Thus, this day helps us realize how women and girls can create and innovate in science.

**Questions for Discussion**

✔ Does the gender of a scientist affect the development of science?

✔ What are some examples of female scientists who contributed to the development of science and technology?

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**Meet Today’s Global Citizen**

**Mae Jemison**

Mae Jemison is a doctor, engineer, and NASA astronaut, and was the first African American woman to travel in space in 1992. She was one of seven crew of the Space Shuttle Endeavour on the mission.

She was dreaming to go to space when she was a little girl, and studied at Stanford University and Cornell University. She served as a medical doctor and volunteered in Africa for 2 years as a member of peace corps. After her work at NASA, she founded a technology consultation and non-profit organization. She currently acts as a science ambassador.