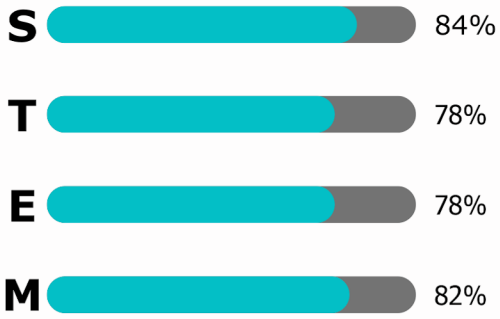
Astrophysicist

STEM Meter

How much Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) does this job use?



Source: jobsandskills.gov.au

Lisa is an astrophysicist who loves seeing galaxies whose light has taken more than a billion years to reach Earth. Lisa was homeschooled from the age of 11 and has worked on exciting projects like the Australian Square Kilometre Array Pathfinder telescope at CSIRO. Find out more:

futureyouaustralia.com.au/pathfinders/lisa

"Astronomy helps us to understand where we came from, connect with the universe, and develop awesome inventions like medical scanners and wifi."

5 reasons why you should do this job

1. You get to explore the universe
2. Solve cosmic puzzles
3. Be part of groundbreaking discoveries
4. Be a role model for future generations
5. Endless opportunities to learn

3 STEM skills required for this job	Subjects to develop these skills
Reading comprehension	English
Critical thinking	Science, Mathematics, Digital Technology
Complex problem solving	Design and Technologies, Digital Technology

A example of a day in the life of an astrophysicist

6.00am I'm up before dawn because I love staring each day with some cosmic perspective. I enjoy some overnight oats and watch as the night sky gives way to the day.

7.00am Time to get dressed. Today I choose a comfortable blend of casual and intellectual with a cosmic-themed shirt and some tailored trousers.

8.00am I head out the door and to the bus stop because today I've got telescope time scheduled. Normally I work from home, but today I'm going to the office. I take the bus because it gives me time to mentally prepare for the celestial discoveries that await. Of course, I listen to some space-themed music on my way. It gets me excited for the day.

9.00am I convene with my team for a morning strategy session. We discuss research goals, ongoing projects, and collaborative opportunities. It's important to keep the conversation dynamic, focusing on the astronomical wonders we collectively aim to explore.

10.00am I sit down at my desk in front of my computer and prepare to immerse myself in the sea of astronomical data. I analyse star patterns, study celestial phenomena, and contribute to the scientific tapestry of the cosmos. I put my analytical skills to good use and attempt to decode the language of the universe in concise, active sentences.

1.00pm Time to pause for lunch. I meet my colleagues in the breakroom and we discuss some of the latest discoveries of the universe. There's never a dull moment at lunch and there's always something exciting to talk about.

2.00pm I have a virtual meeting with some fellow astrophysicists. We share hypotheses, exchange insights, and debate the mysteries of the cosmos. This is a great opportunity for us to really delve deeply into some of the questions that I have following my morning of universal language decoding.

3.00pm It's the most exciting part of my day! I head to the observatory for a session with the telescope. This is my chance to witness the cosmic ballet firsthand, capturing images and data to unravel the secrets of distant galaxies. I capture my observations into precise and impactful descriptions using my phone.

4.30pm I get back to my desk and input my observations into the immense data collection I have been compiling for years. This work is vital to helping us better understand the universe and where we come from. I spend the last few hours of my day making sure the data I input is clean and all the correct detail is there. Once I've finished this, I shut down my computer, say goodbye to my colleagues, and head out the door.

6.00pm Tonight I am participating in a public lecture as part of an educational outreach program I'm a mentor for. I love these sessions. I get to communicate complex astrophysical concepts in a clear and accessible manner, ensuring everyone can grasp the wonders of the cosmos. I love watching people's reactions to learning more about the universe.

8.00pm I wrap up my day by heading home and reheating some leftovers from dinner last night. Today was a big day, but very rewarding.

9.30pm To help me wind down I head outside to stargaze from the comfort of my backyard. As an astrophysicist, I find immense joy in taking a moment each evening to stare up at the night sky and wonder what I'll discover tomorrow.

10.30pm Time for bed. I crawl under the covers and hope that I'll dream about galaxies billions of light years away.