

Book Club Guide

Gutsy Girls: Strong Christian Women Who Impacted the World
Dr. Jennifer Wiseman

Guiding Questions for Book Club Discussion

- Although *Gutsy Girls* is an illustrated children's book, all of the text and illustrations are based on real events (this includes the illustration of young Jennifer selling gerbils!). What details from Dr. Jennifer Wiseman's life stand out to you? What do you still wonder about?
- When Jennifer was a child, God gave her a love for nature, outdoors, and space. As she grew, Jennifer's interest in these areas turned into passions and later, even a career with NASA. Discuss some of the things you are passionate about. Can you imagine ways God might use these passions for His glory?
- What do you know about the sun, stars, our solar system, and planets? Have you ever seen a shooting star, visited an observatory, or looked through a powerful telescope? Tell about your experience.
- Turn to the last page of Jennifer's story. Read and discuss the last paragraph of the book. Why is it gutsy to understand that the most important truth doesn't come from searching skies, reading books, or experimenting in laboratories? How is this different than physical bravery?
- Read the **Historical Note** in the back of the book and discuss. Do you find any of the additional details about Jennifer's life surprising? Discuss.
- Being gutsy isn't just about being brave. It's about having a relationship with God and relying on Him to live and act in courageous ways for His glory. Can you think of heroes from history who were gutsy? Can you think of someone from the Bible who was asked to do something they could not do on their own and were required to rely on God?
- Think of the events happening in your life right now. Do you need prayers to live bravely?

Additional Gutsy Girls Activities

- **Learn about the telescope Dr. Wiseman works on through a rap song.** Dr. Wiseman is a senior astrophysicist at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, where she serves as the Senior Project Scientist for the Hubble Space Telescope.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ki6kQT7YPQY>
- **Look at Hubble Space Telescope images from NASA.**
https://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/hubble/multimedia/index.html
- **Stargaze.** Plan a trip to a local observatory (or your backyard!) to see what you can see.
- **Complete a black hole experiment like Jennifer did in the book.** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pcOxhdu5gh8>
- **Memorize a Bible verse.** When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for Him? Psalm 8:3-4.
- **Eat like astronauts.** Order astronaut food online. You won't believe how many kinds there are to taste. Try ice cream or fruit.
- **Watch a video about the evolution of space food.** A sneak peek inside NASA's Space Food Laboratory.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6vVle67Tfjc>
- **Talk with the Author.** Create a list of questions for the author, Amy L. Sullivan and set-up a time to chat via Skype. For more information contact Amy at AmyLSullivan12@gmail.com.
- **Paint Rocks.** Copy an illustration from *Gutsy Girls* with this easy craft. <http://www.shelovesscience.com/rockpainting/>
- **Bake Earth cookies.** <http://www.tammileetips.com/earth-day-cookies/>
- **Make your book club glow.**
<http://blovelyevents.com/2013/10/05/neon-glow-in-the-dark-party/>
- **Search the author's Pinterest board on space themed, book club fun.**
<https://www.pinterest.com/amylsullivan/gutsygirlsread-space-themed-book-club-ideas/>