

# Taking STEM to New Heights!

Major Jen uses STEM to protect the United States from foreign terrorism. As a Remotely Piloted Aircraft pilot for the Air National Guard, Jen serves as a part of our country's integral air defense by remotely piloting long-endurance aircraft in missions all over the world from a base right here in Iowa!

"My first STEM education actually happened in military training. I studied basic scientific and engineering principles to learn and understand how airplanes fly," she said. "While I'm sitting in the pilot seat, I calculate time en route to a target, track the aircraft's fuel burn and back up the computer's computations. Our aircraft is on the other side of the world, so we rely on technology to keep us connected and maintain full control of the RPA."

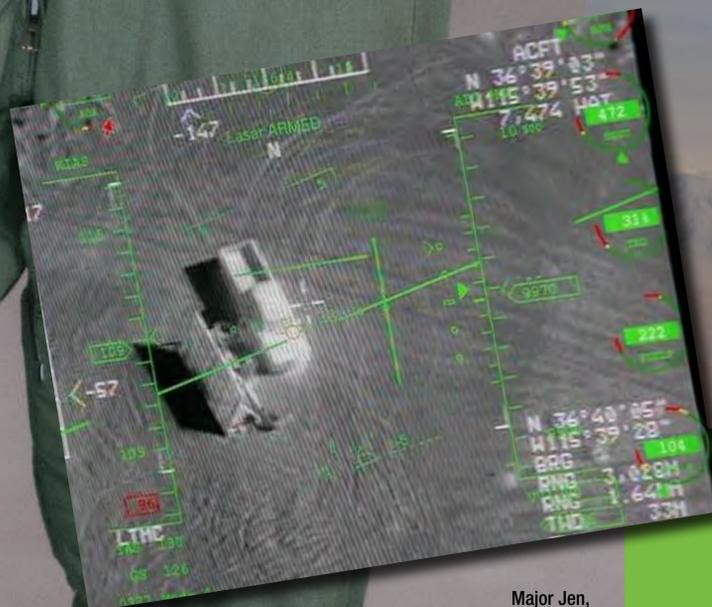
As both an elementary STEM teacher and RPA pilot, Jen is devoted to making sure our world is a safe place for her students and those across the nation. She flies a few days each month to execute missions that can last 24/7.

"Being a part of the mission and working as a squadron to make an impact on terrorism is the most rewarding part of my flying job," Jen said. "STEM is such a vast and ever-evolving field. Find a topic that excites you and continue to learn as much as you can about it. You may end up on the forefront of the next incredible idea!"

## MAJOR JEN

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Major Jen,  
RPA Pilot,  
Air National Guard,  
and STEM Teacher

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