

## Ada Lovelace

As with all the other women we have introduced to you so far in our #whoisshe series, our STEM woman in today's edition discovered her enthusiasm for science and mathematics already at quite an early age: Her name was Ada Lovelace - computer pioneer and co-founder of computer science! Did you recognize her in our story?

Ada Lovelace died at 36 years. In her short lifetime, however, she achieved unbelievable! As the daughter of the famous poet Lord Byron and the noble Baroness Wentworth, Ada is born into an educated home and her early thirst for knowledge is quenched by private lessons.

Shortly after her introduction at court, young Ada is introduced to the mathematician Charles Babbage. At that time, Babbage had already been working for several years on a mechanical calculating machine composed of countless gears. He continues to develop the machine, and Ada is one of the few who immediately understands the inventor's design; thus, she becomes one of Babbage's most important confidants. But Ada recognizes even more: she is sure that such a machine can not only calculate or solve mathematical problems, but could be capable of processing basically any information, if only it could be translated mathematically. Today, this very discipline is known as computer science or information science. Ultimately, Ada writes a chain of instructions for the world's first computer, becoming a pioneer of digital technology!

Tragically, this amazing achievement is not recognized at first, except by the mathematical community. This early vision of a modern computer was too difficult to understand at that time. The principle of the computer had to be developed again 100 years after the remarks of Ada Lovelace - When the understanding for this digitality has been more widespread and the technology was more advanced.

But maybe you know the programming language "Ada", which was named after the intellectual mathematician - a late honor to her innovative ideas.

In our GEM project, we care about STEM education for girls and want to encourage them in their desire to start their own STEM careers.

Source: <https://www.geo.de/wissen/23430-rtkl-mathematik-computer-pionierin-ada-lovelace-die-frau-die-aus-der-zukunft-kam>

Picture Source: wikipedia