# Parisa Tabriz

**cybersecurity expert**

**Parisa Tabriz** works at Google where she is a leader in cybersecurity. She leads a team of white hat hackers (or pen testers) who try to discover and fix security flaws in Google's products

Fun facts:
- She grew up in Chicago and has two younger brothers
- She didn't take any CS courses until college
- She first got interested in cybersecurity when her personal website was hacked
- She chose "security princess" as the title for her business cards because she thought it sounded less boring than a normal title
- She's a huge proponent of getting more women into cybersecurity!

# *Cybersecurity*

The job of a cybersecurity team is to try to find vulnerabilities in software or websites that allow someone to get information or access that they shouldn't have. To find those vulnerabilities, the cybersecurity team--often called pen testers or white hat hackers-- has to try to break into the website or product. Sometimes this can mean finding issues in the software or code that allow unintended access, but it can also mean exploiting human errors like easy to guess passwords or even trying to trick people into giving out sensitive information (which is called social engineering). The best cybersecurity experts then help fix these issues to prevent them from happening again!

# Lesson idea:

1. Introduce Parisa Tabriz and cybersecurity with the information above
2. Watch this news feature (4:04) on Parisa Tabriz and her work
3. Explore cybersecurity: Introduce system security with the unplugged activities in this cybersecurity lesson from Teaching Security.  Try the Small-Group Brainstorming Activity: Defend and Attack (under the "Explore" Activities) and/or the Small-Group Activity: Threat Model a House (under the "Engage" Activities).

# *Explore further*

Learn more about Parisa Tabriz and cybersecurity with these resources:

**Videos**

- "Security Princess" Parisa Tabriz is Google's Secret Weapon
- Cybersecurity & Crime by Code.org
- Silk Road: Drugs, Death, and the Dark Web (2017) - warning: violence

**Activities**

- A New Pipeline's Introduction to Cybersecurity
- Hack This Site

**Reading**

- Meet Google's Security Princess in Elle
- With Any Luck, This Googler Will Turn More Girls Into Hackers in Wired
- Parisa Tabriz's website
- The Rise and Fall of Silk Road in Wired
- Google offers rewards for finding vulnerabilities in Chrome