

MEET A

ROSLIN

SCIENTIST

INFORMATION & ACTIVITY PACK



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
Easter Bush
Science Outreach Centre



About the sessions

Meet a Roslin Scientist is a virtual interactive session where you can *beam a scientist* live into your classroom (well almost!).

The session will give your pupils a unique opportunity to learn about some of the science happening here in Scotland, hear about different career paths and give them the opportunity to ask their own questions. Sessions like this can increase pupils' curiosity in STEM, help raise awareness of STEM careers and support pupils to reflect on their own science-related skills.



Every session will:

- Begin with a 5 minute video from a Roslin scientist, followed by a Q&A with pupils via the class teacher
- Include a science “show-and-tell” (by our scientist)
- Last for 30 - 45 minutes (depending on level of pupils and number of scientists participating in the session)
- Cover a specific area of science/research
- Feature at least one scientist

How will it work? The tech bit...

How will the virtual video call be set up?

- ✓ We will organise the session using the University of Edinburgh's version of Microsoft Teams that **complies with strict University security and privacy policies**. A copy of the University of Edinburgh's Security & Privacy Guidelines is available on our website or by [clicking here](#). We can use other platforms if Microsoft Teams is not available at your school.
- ✓ **Your classroom computer will be the only computer connected to the virtual session**, multiple classes from your school can join in on one session but this must be pre-arranged with us. You will connect the computer to your digital whiteboard so that your pupils can see and hear the scientist.
- ✓ **You are responsible for coordinating and communicating the questions from your pupils** to the scientists, whether this is via [submitting the questions](#) beforehand via the online form, a teacher controlled microphone or typing questions in the meeting's chat box.

How will we be able to chat with the scientists?

- ✓ During the session, we encourage you to put on the **webcam and microphone** of your classroom computer (check your own local school rules). Having the class webcam and microphone on makes for a more engaging session but if this not possible **don't worry!** The session can be conducted through the **chat box function** i.e. you can type in questions on behalf of your pupils.

How to get the most out of Meet our Scientists

The children were thrilled when their name and questions were read out. They loved the interactive chat box too and we had lots of discussion in class after the session. –Primary Teacher, Midlothian

Meeting a scientist is an **opportunity for your pupils to learn about the world of work** in scientific research and **explore the skills** needed to work in science.

To make the most out of *Meet a Roslin Scientist* we have suggested some **pre- and post- session activities** that could be done to:

- ✓ encourage **meaningful discussion** about pupils' own skills
- ✓ explore their **impressions of science jobs**
- ✓ challenge some typical **stereotypes associated with scientists**
- ✓ help you and your pupils explore the *Developing the Young Workforce* "I can" statements



Pre-session Activity 1- Asking your question

Give each pupil a copy of the **pupil worksheet** so that they can **read the profile** of the scientist that you have been sent and **watch the video**.

Have a discussion about the scientist in a small groups or as a class.

- **Discussion prompts:** *What do they do? Where do they work? Did anything surprise you? What skills do you think they to do their job? What do you already know about this area of science? What more would you like know?*

Ask pupils to work individually or in pairs to come up with a question they would like ask.

The question could be about the scientist's work, their career, their motivations for getting into science etc.

Please **submit the questions via this link** <https://edin.ac/2GSS8Qx> **at least 2 days before the session**. During the live session we will answer as many as possible, and we will also be taking some questions live!

ASK YOUR
QUESTIONS
NOW!

Pre-session Activity 2- What do scientists look like?

Do a Google Image search for the word “scientist” and look at the images as a class (you can screenshot the screen and show this in class).



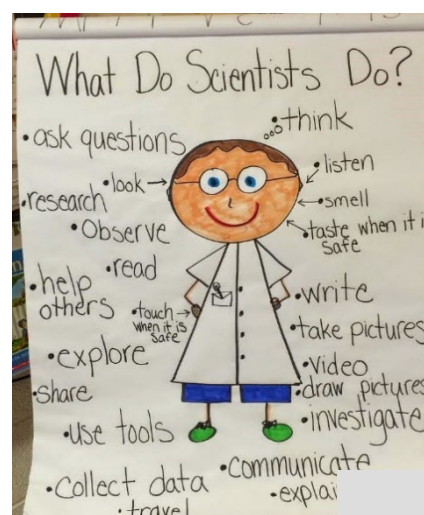
- **Discussion prompts:** *What do all the pictures have in common? Do these pictures represent all scientists? Do scientists only work in labs and wear white coats?*

Now ask pupils to think about any real scientists they know or have seen:

Discussion prompts: *Where else do scientists work? What do they do? What do they look like? Have you met a scientist before? What equipment might they use? What might they wear?*

Activity 3 Post-Session Activity

1. Write the question *What do Scientists Do?* on the board.
2. Give each group a large piece of paper and colouring pens. Encourage them to think back to the scientist(s) they met and the science investigations they do in class.
3. Prompt the pupils to think about the skills they need to do an experiment.
4. When finished, ask the pupils to swap their poster with another group and to compare them.
5. Give each group their poster back and give them five minutes to add to it, if they wish to.
6. Stick all posters up on the wall and discuss their findings.



- **Discussion prompts:** *Which of these skills do you have? Would you like to work in science? Would you like to be a scientist? Could you be a scientist if you wanted to be? What science do you use/do every day?*

**Take pictures of your pupils' creations and post them on Twitter
@EBSOClab @roslininstitute**



Safeguarding Policy

For the purposes of the *Meet a Roslin Scientist* online programme we have a Safeguarding Position Statement that applies to school pupils and teachers, the Meet a Roslin Scientist team and other staff & students from the University of Edinburgh who will participate in the sessions.

The purpose and scope of this position statement is to:

- protect the young people who participate in Meet a Roslin Scientist from online harm
- provide Participants and Providers with a Code of Conduct that guides their working together online and informs them of mitigation strategies that must be put in place to reduce the risk of potential harm

Please **read this statement before your online session**, you can find a copy on our website or by [clicking here](#).