

PATHWAYS INTO SCIENCE

What will happen on the day?

On 22nd May, we are hoping to effectively showcase engaging STEM careers, and the pathways to them, by inviting PhD students and also some STEM companies across a wide variety of fields, to spend a morning being ambassadors for their line of work. Through activities and/ or 'speed- networking' with school pupils you will be able to give pupils an insight into what your PhD is about, *why* you're doing it – and hopefully it'll be a lot of fun too!

What will you be doing?

You will be talking with different groups of roughly 8-10 students at a time, for 5/6 minutes, over a two hour period. Working in half of a classroom you will have the walls/ tables/ chairs/ whiteboards etc to do with what you will (obviously within reason). There are also 3 fume cupboards available.

If you are keen to get involved, then once you get in touch we can discuss things further, but here are some ideas for practical activities that might/ might not be useful:

- Bring a poster you have presented in the past (with pictures!) and discuss, in simple terms, your project and what you do
- Take a piece of equipment, relevant to your project, and get them to guess what it does and/or what you do
- Have a bag with an object in it which they have to feel and guess its identity...

What you do is up to you and limited only by your imagination (and the time available) but the key is to do something that will engage pupils – and get a conversation going. Try to grab their attention and pique their interest. How about this for the more daring of you... <http://bit.ly/Wp2JVb> (!)

Why do it?

As well as being a fun and rewarding thing to do, getting involved in "Pathways into Science" would be:

- A great way to get involved in the local community, with little time commitment
- An invaluable addition to your CV – for employment/ further academia
- A way to exercise and improve your public presentation skills
- A break from your day-to-day research and a way to get creative.
- An opportunity to challenge the stereotypes - that all scientists are 'geeks', that science is boring and (particularly for the girls) that it's just for boys!!

How to get involved...

By 26th April, Please email Katie Hudson (katie@proscience.co.uk) stating your interest. In your email, please say in 200 words or less:

- What you're doing your PhD on (explained in a way that a non-scientist might understand).
- Why your PhD is important and
- What school pupils would get from talking to you (won't necessarily be academic)