

Become a STEM Ambassador

Inspire young people in science,
technology, engineering and maths

‘When I talk to groups of young people,
there are always some that have a ‘light
bulb’ moment, and realise that science
is exciting and rewarding, and something
that they can and want to do for a living’

Heather Williams,
STEM Ambassador

STEM
AMBASSADORS
ILLUMINATING
FUTURES



'I love my job because of the variety. One day I can be in the laboratory testing materials for a new board, and the next day I'll be out testing it on the slopes to see if my work has paid off'

Liza Brooks,
STEM Ambassador



Image © Richard Cannon

'The children were excited to have a real life engineer in the classroom and embraced the idea of becoming engineers themselves, producing their own model bridges'

Diane Tatnell,
Science Coordinator,
St Francis Primary School

Become a STEM Ambassador

The STEM Ambassadors Programme enables anyone with science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) skills to inspire young people and demonstrate the possibilities of STEM subjects and careers. The occupations of STEM Ambassadors are very wide ranging, including environmental scientists, chemists, civil engineers, marine biologists, medical physicists, pharmacists, apprentices and energy analysts to name but a few. Anyone who uses STEM skills, and is willing and able to excite young people about STEM subjects, can apply to become a STEM Ambassador.

The Programme is funded by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) and is supported by employers in every part of the UK, who encourage their staff to become STEM Ambassadors.

The STEM Ambassadors Programme is coordinated nationally by STEMNET and managed locally by STEMNET's sub-regional partners.

STEMNET's web-based platform *STEM Networking* is a place for STEM Ambassadors to share experiences, access resources and find opportunities to engage young people with STEM subjects and careers.

- Browse blog posts from other Ambassadors, comment and write about your own activities
- Access the Resource Bank, filled with tried and tested activities, plans, suggestions and links
- Find relevant opportunities in your area in teachers' Ambassador requests

Inspire each other, as well as young people. Register as a STEM Ambassador now at

<http://networking.stemnet.org.uk>

What types of activities can STEM Ambassadors do?

Ambassadors are provided with opportunities which fit their own skills and availability and include a wide range of activities such as giving careers talks, helping with projects in after-school STEM clubs or challenge days and judging competitions.

They also support and inspire teachers in the classroom and help them update their knowledge of contemporary science, technology and research processes. The variety of activities and the impact they have is huge.

STEM Ambassador case studies, as well as a wealth of tried-and-tested resources to help Ambassadors to inspire young people, can be found the STEMNET website.

The STEM Ambassadors Programme aims to:

- Excite young people about STEM.
- Give teachers a unique perspective on how the STEM curriculum can be related to the world of work.
- Encourage young people to consider STEM careers and qualifications.
- Contribute to improved academic achievement in STEM subjects.
- Develop other employability skills including confidence, team-work, presentation and creativity.



Benefits of being a STEM Ambassador include:

- Enjoying a sense of achievement.
- Gaining a fresh perspective on day-to-day work when seen through the eyes of students.
- Helping to make a difference in the local community.
- Developing new skills and confidence.

Who can become a STEM Ambassador?

Anyone over the age of 17 with skills or interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and/or Mathematics can register as a STEM Ambassador. The most important qualities in STEM Ambassadors are that they are enthusiastic and positive role models for STEM subjects and associated careers.

How do I become a STEM Ambassador?

The first step is to register online at www.stemnet.org.uk. You will then receive an email from your local STEM Ambassadors contract holder offering you a range of induction dates. All STEM Ambassadors are required to attend a 2 - 3 hour induction session. This will familiarise you with the Programme and provide tips about working effectively with young people. You will also be sent information about obtaining an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificate.

Once you have received an acceptable Enhanced DBS certificate and attended the induction, you can begin volunteering in schools. The whole process takes an average of 3 - 4 weeks.

To find out more or register as a STEM Ambassador, visit the STEMNET website www.stemnet.org.uk

Follow @STEMNET on Twitter



'I volunteer as a STEM Ambassador because I love my job and want to share that with young people; in turn, their excitement as they learn what I do for a living helps keep my passion for it alive.'

Elizabeth Orchard,
Most Dedicated STEM Ambassador
award winner 2012

‘It’s fantastic! You literally see the young people switch on when they understand that what they are learning is the real thing’

Samme Brough,
STEM Ambassador

For further information visit
www.stemnet.org.uk

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