

# Sophie Duncan- scientist - FAQs

## **What do you do day-to-day?**

There definitely isn't a typical day at Science Year – although a lot of my work has been office based. As is typical with any project that has to be finished by certain dates, hours can be long, but the variety keeps you going! Much of my work is liaising with our many partners and ensuring we get good value from our projects. I have a lot of meetings, and will visit projects once they are running to check everything is going well. I have also done writing for the website, encouraged organisations to liaise together, written and run workshops at Tomorrow's World Live, tested ideas with teachers and students, and lots of project management.

## **What do you like most about your job?**

The thing I love most about my work is the opportunity to be creative, and to find solutions that meet Science Year's aims and objectives. I love the fact that we can work together with other organisations to create projects that can encourage people to participate in science. I believe that many young people are put off from science when they could find fulfilment in learning the skills that most scientists use everyday. Whilst I don't think everyone should become a scientist, I look forward to a time when people feel equipped to participate within debates and discussions about science, and enjoy the wonder of discovery that is part of the fascination of science.

## **Is there anything about your job that you really hate?**

The thing I find most frustrating about my job is that it is difficult to ensure everyone has an opportunity to join in the programs we run, and to market them effectively.

## **Do you use the science you learnt?**

Having a science background is definitely an asset when it comes to thinking of the content for the programs and website. I do not use much of what I have learnt directly, but the thinking skills, approach to problem solving, and knowledge base are definitely worth having to do this job.