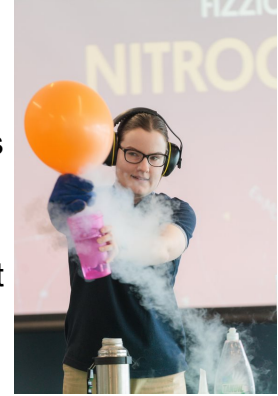


Letter from Professionals in STEM

To aspiring scientists and science lovers,

My name is Amelia, and I currently work as a science presenter at Fizzics Education, where we do science shows and workshops for kids and the general public. This is science communication, which is a very important aspect of science you might not think about. No matter how groundbreaking your science is, there's not much point if nobody hears about it!



A big part of my job is to inspire a love for science, as opposed to simply teaching it. I also endeavor to make science fun, which is easy for me, as I've always loved science!

I have a degree in Palaeobiology, as dinosaurs and fossils were my first passion ever since I was really young. I originally wanted to do post graduate study and get a PhD, but I found that I struggled with certain aspects of academia, such as completing large bodies of work over time. However, at uni I discovered that I really enjoyed communicating science, especially to kids. This type of work is more hands-on, dynamic, and I'm constantly learning new things, which really matches well with my brain.

For career advice, I like to encourage students to work on building their skills and knowledge base behind the scenes. Small things, such as starting to learn how to code using a free youtube tutorial, or reading books/listening to podcasts on diverse topics. Not only do you get a foundation for skills you might want to practice down the track, you also build more confidence in yourself and can discover more about what you like and how you learn.

If you have a career focus already, that's great! If you don't, that's fine as well. It can sometimes take a while, and especially in STEM, career paths are rarely linear.

Overall, my main piece of advice that I like to give is follow your curiosity and passion, as that can often shape your path towards your future career. Also, be kind to yourself and give yourself space to grow and learn.

Kind regards and good luck!

- *Amelia A.*