



Ambassador Profiles

Name: *Jade Leonard*

Occupation:

Technical Specialist Trainee – Sellafield Ltd.

What were your interests when you were at school?

I enjoyed maths and graphic designing.

As a student were you able to take advantage of any STEM type activities outside the usual school timetable?

Unfortunately there were no STEM type activities in place when I was in school. Or none that I was aware of.

If so, how did this influence your career path? *N/A*

What are your roles and responsibilities in your workplace now?

My role within the workplace is to provide specialist development in the area of fuel rod welding. I am responsible for ensuring data is captured and assessed appropriately to support operations and development work.

Why did you decide to become an STEM ambassador?

I became a STEM ambassador because I think the scheme is a fantastic idea for making science and maths fun and highlighting this to younger students and to help dismiss the myth that these kind of subjects are only available to certain types of people.

Also to encourage students to think about the STEM subjects as possible future careers and to give my experience of working in the industry and how I got here.

What do you feel are the positive outcomes of being a STEM Ambassador?

For yourself?

I enjoy working with the students and seeing them change their mind and develop better opinions about these subjects.

For the pupils taking part in the activity?

It is a great opportunity for the pupil's development to see how these subjects are used in the real world. It is also encouraging to see the pupils learn throughout the activity and form their own answers and ideas.

For the teaching staff accompanying the pupils?

It is a great way to introduce activities into the pupil's learning and sparks some enthusiasm from the pupils.

Which STEM activity have you enjoyed the most and why?

Girls in Engineering Day – This day highlights that the industry isn't just for men, and hopefully encourages more girls to look further into their career opportunities. Nowadays more and more females are following this career path and it is good to be able to pass on my experience as a woman in the Nuclear Industry.

What was your role in this activity?

I worked on a number of tasks leading a group of girls. The tasks were: building an electronic circuit for a buzzer game and building paper aeroplanes and rockets. My role was to help describe the engineering & science behind these activities.

Do you think being a STEM Ambassador has enhanced your career in anyway?

Yes I believe it has given me the opportunity to develop further skills in teaching/leading groups and also public speaking. It also shows I am willing to volunteer to pass on my experience and contribute towards improving the future of the industry.

Do you have any advice for people who are considering becoming a STEM ambassador?

It is a highly rewarding role and will look great on your CV.

