

'BTEC Inspiration!'

Do you sometimes find that your students doubt the validity of the BTEC qualification they are studying leading to a lack of motivation? This activity will use an Ambassador role model to inspire and motivate showing the relevance of BTEC study and how the vocational nature of this study is relevant to real work contexts. Real scientists write lab reports!

Before

It is important that you have clear objectives for this activity and share these with the Ambassador. What do you want your class to get out of this experience? Do you have a specific unit of study or scenario that will be more appropriate? How long do you want the Ambassador to attend? Visit individual classes or whole exam cohort? Let the Stem Centre team know your requirements as far in advance of your proposed date as possible. Use the check list to prepare for the day.

During

STEM Ambassadors are professionals working within or with an interest in the fields of STEM, they are not generally teachers. Therefore it is important that the activity is facilitated by at least 1 teacher and that the classroom management issues are undertaken by that member of staff. Be prepared to prompt discussion.

After

Consider some follow up activities in class or a return visit by one the STEM Ambassadors to take part in another activity. Tell us how the activity went by filling in an evaluation form or sending us an email.

Activity 6

Teacher

NOTES:

Age Range: KS4-KS5

Duration: 1 hour/lesson or lesson start

Capacity: Min 1 class, max - dependant on space

Themes: STEM, Careers, PSHE

Resources: Space to hold activity

Preparation time: 1 hour

Checklist:

- ✓ STEM Ambassadors requested at least 6 weeks before the event
- ✓ Correspond with STEM Ambassadors directly to clarify arrangements and requirements
- ✓ Reception informed that visitors will be arriving and where they should go
- ✓ Senior staff informed and approval given
- ✓ At least 1 member of staff available to facilitate the activity (depending on number of students involved)
- ✓ Room booked/confirmed and set up
- ✓ Registered with STEMNetworking, to blog about your activity

Enhancement:

Ask the Ambassador if a workplace visit is possible



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STEM Ambassadors work to promote diversity including routes to STEM careers. Many school students study BTEC qualifications and many doubt the validity of these qualifications. Help young people value their studies and see the relevance of the more vocational element of these qualifications. Reports, articles and presentations about your work are a part of working life.

Before

Ask the teacher about the qualification, research what roles within your profession would have BTEC qualifications. Think and plan out your introduction, presentation or talk to be engaging, relevant and concise. Think about how people progress in your profession maybe through on-the-job training so that initial qualifications might not be a bar to a successful career. Highlight the transferrable skills that will be developed. Let the STEM Centre team know about your activity as far in advance as possible and register it on the STEMNET database. Use the checklist to prepare for the day.

During

Use practical examples from your experience to illustrate the points you want to make. Be prepared to counter negative attitudes. Think about a practical activity that the students can engage with to illustrate your points. The activity will be supported by at least 1 teacher who will be responsible for room and behaviour management.

After

Review how it went, include teacher feedback and amend activity as necessary. You will have an activity that can be taken to other schools. Tell us how it went by completing an evaluation form or emailing us. Consider organising a return visit to the school to take part in another activity.

Activity 6

Ambassador

NOTES:

Age Range: 14-18

Duration: 1 lesson or less if lesson starter or assembly

Capacity: Min 30 or more if an assembly

Schools: 1

Preparation time: ①①

You will need: Your presentation or talk

Checklist:

- ✓ Correspond with the teacher directly to clarify arrangements and requirements
- ✓ Enough materials to complete the activity with the students
- ✓ Information to the teacher to complete the Risk Assessment (if necessary)
- ✓ Registered with STEMNetworking to blog about your activity
- ✓ Checked the school address and planned how to get there
- ✓ STEM Ambassador pin badge, ID card and CRB form ready to take with you

Ambassador tips and ideas

- Research where BTEC qualifications might be useful in your profession/organisation
- Look at www.cogent-career.com to find career pathways for science based industries
- Remember that these qualifications can be used to lead to further study