

'Women in Science' for Brownies and Guides girls.

The 'Meet the Scientist' events are all day drop-in events, running from 10am until 4pm. The events are a chance for children to find out information about what real scientists do, discuss topical science issues in the news and to try out simple hands on activities which are related to the work of the scientist.

This session is focus on girls in the Guiding movement. We are aiming to inspire girls to take an interest in Science and to see possible career opportunities in Science, so it will be great if female scientists are represented at the events, and we can highlight important contributions of female scientists. Also we are trying to provide the girls with all the experiences they need to get a 'Science Investigators' badge, so I will work with the scientists to highlight links between the activities and the badges.

Women in Plant Science Stand

1) Guides and the environment

a. Welcoming:

What they can find in our stand (importance of plants in our society, some aspects that needs to be investigated in plant science and some woman that dedicated their work to understand plants) and the freebies they will have at the end.

b. Guides and environment

'As you know, when Guides make their Promise they commit to follow the Guide Law. Do you remember the last law?

A Guide respects all living things and takes care of the world around her.

In science we want to know more about the world and how can we preserve it. Even Agnes Baden-Powel, foundress of the Girl Guides, did a little science to change the world:

- Studied Natural History, Astronomy and Science in her spare time
- She constructed an aeronautical balloon and help aeroplane-building
- She was an honorary companion of the Royal Aeronautical Society

We encourage you to discover with us a bit more about plants and brave women. '

2) Plant research

- Plants in our daily life: Play the Card Game
- Alice bulletpoints: other areas of plant research

- Food security: ask them how many are we? how much arable land do we need? ... we have a problem
- Meiosis to select better characteristics in crops:
 - Plant pollination: show a flower and explain how pollen goes to the stigma
 - Cell division to produce this pollen and stigma eggs (like us).
 - We need better knowledge of this process to produce quickly new natural varieties (stronger, bigger, healthier...)

3) Polyploidy activity

We are made up of cells: talk about chromosomes where genes reside and decide how we look...

- Playdoh to show problems in meiosis in polyploids, however plants can tolerate it while it is lethal in humans.
- Talk about our important crop plants.
- Play the polyploidy game.

4) Women on Plant Science - Clue Game

We will have 3 different stories to choose and pictures of them. Each story will follow this scheme:

- a. Read out loud the 1st part of the story.
 - i. Fill a plant scheme with its parts to get the second part.
- b. Read 2nd part.
 - i. Distinguish between products coming from: roots, flowers, stems and fruits (show them pictures).
- c. Read 3rd part.
 - i. Play a wordguessing game to guess the name of the scientist. They start with 10 seeds (points) and they can buy different letters/vowels to solve it.
- d. Conclusions: what are we using from her work? do they like the story?...

5. What can you do for discovering more about science and plants

There are a lot of activities you can do to know more.

- The Universities offer a wide range of outreach activities and open days.
- Organise a visit to a lab with your Guide group.
- Do several activities of the Budget programmes of Science, Outdoor Pursuits, Biodiversity and Food Security.

We will print the leaflets and have them there for them to have a look and also for their monitors to know them and encourage the girls.