

Engaging with Children About the Work You Do!

Children enjoy listening to adults talk about what they do in their workplace or the industry they work in, they want to know the fun facts about your daily work experience. However, they also need to gain an understanding of what it is that you do this will lead to greater knowledge and a more memorable experience.

Children are more likely to understand and remember when they are given a task related to your job/role to complete, this can lead to a richer experience for both you the speaker and the children.

If you are doing a presentation to introduce your job role keep it short so you can move onto activities as soon as possible.

Here are a few ideas to help you think about the types of activities that you can do with the children:

Quiz -	Prepare a mini quiz to check children's misconceptions about job roles in your field. Such as: How many women/men are employed in this role? The types of skills or exams that are needed to do your job. This can be done at the beginning of the workshop and then you can <i>bust the myths and stereotypes</i> .
Problem-solving skills -	Prepare printed cards with the types of problems you have come across in your work. Children to work in small groups to discuss solutions to the problems. Then children can present their solutions and you can feedback to them.
Role-play -	Give children real life scenarios to discuss e.g. Customer service best practice. Employee satisfaction. Children to decide who will be the manager, employee or customer and debate the scenarios to find satisfactory solutions. Place emphasis on teamwork.
Examples of what you produce -	Bring examples of what you produce and give to children for them to investigate or explore them. Inform children of all the different jobs and elements that are required to produce what you do.
Plenary session -	At the end to pupils to feedback to you on what they have learned. You can ask children: What went well? Even better if..., I now know....

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