Scientist in the Spotlight



Kelly Stanford

Science Artist

Kelly Stanford has combined the world of science and art to become a science artist. She studied history of art at university and delved into using art to communicate scientific subjects. Kelly is partially blind but has always had a passion for the subtlety of art and blending that with the mysteries of science. She **thrives** on that passion working as a scientific illustrator and communicator. Scientific illustrations and models are extremely useful for explaining abstract ideas, such as the structure of the atom and electronic configurations.

Currently, Kelly is doing a research masters at the University of Hull where she studies whether card games can effectively be used to communicate **geoscience** subjects. Every day at work is different. One day she could be making a card game and the next she could be designing or making an educational sculpture for a client. Other than her work projects, Kelly works on personal projects to make life more exciting. She sketches out plans for the project over a cup of coffee and works on the main result for the rest of the day. Apart from making art, Kelly also engages in **interdisciplinary** sci-art workshops. She enjoys the challenge of students to create arty posters explaining their research and results.

A perk of her work is that she doesn't have the restrictions that many STEM workers do. She can manage and jump between many interdisciplinary projects at once and has the liberty of being as creative as she wants. Despite not having a strict science background, Kelly has had lots of support from scientists. She really enjoys working with researchers in a wide range of fields to help make their work more accessible to a general audience.

Kelly is not afraid to try **unconventional** things and doing things outside her comfort zone. Her advice to aspiring young scientists and science communicators is that one does not have to be from a science background to get involved with science. It is the passion and motivation to become one that counts.

Activity

Use the scientist's profile to answer the following questions:

1. What is the scientist's job?

2. Briefly describe what the scientist does in a typical day.

3. What skills do they need for this job?

4. What do you think is the most interesting part of their job?

5. Describe how this job links with the science you have learned in this unit

6. State the definition of any words in **bold**.

Science Mastery

Scientist Fact File

Skills Needed for this job: 1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	Describe this job in your own words:
Similarities between this scientist and you:	Your opinion of this job:
+ -	Additional notes: