

Scientists' Interviews - What Makes a Scientist Tick?

Questions asked in the Interviews:

1. Some people think that the kind of school you went to influences your success in life. What kind of schools did you go to as a youngster?
2. Some people think that parents have a lot to do with your career choices and success in life. What role did your parents play? Had they gone to college? Were either of them scientists or working in related areas?
3. Did you like school or science when you were in school? If not, what did you want to be when you grew up?
4. Some people think you have to be smart to be a scientist. Were you a good student?
5. When did you first get interested in science? What caused you to develop this interest?
6. Why did you become a scientist? What was (is) your purpose?
7. What are your research interests? How did you become interested in your research area?
8. What have you discovered and published? Why do you think this research has been or will be useful?
9. What's going on in your research laboratory right now that you would most want to share with teachers and students?
10. What changes do you hope to see in 20 years as a result of the work you have done or are doing now?
11. I assume that you find your research to be rewarding? Why?
12. Why do you think middle school students should be interested in your research/career field?
13. In addition to research, many scientists teach. Have you taught and why is teaching important in science?
14. What do you like to do in your free time?
15. What advice would you give to someone interested in knowing more about your area of expertise?