

A scientist just like me



Gunay Shamilova
Corrosion Engineer

A scientist just like me

Hi there! I am Gunay Shamilova – A corrosion engineer



Where do I work?

I used to work in BP Azerbaijan as an offshore corrosion engineer. Now I work in the BP central team, based in London.

What did I like doing when I was at school?

I loved chemistry and maths, and I studied very well. I also had a great interest in art and music.

What do I like doing in my spare time?

I love drawing, music, cooking, singing songs and going to the gym. I am taking horse riding lessons. I love spending time with animals. I dream about having a Golden Retriever dog.

A scientist just like me

What do I do as a corrosion engineer?



Corrosion engineers are like doctors for metals. When a metal corrodes it reacts with air or other substances near it (e.g. rusting) and this can make it weaker. We monitor metals to see if there is a risk of corrosion. Then we give advice about preventing corrosion, such as injecting chemicals or coating the material.

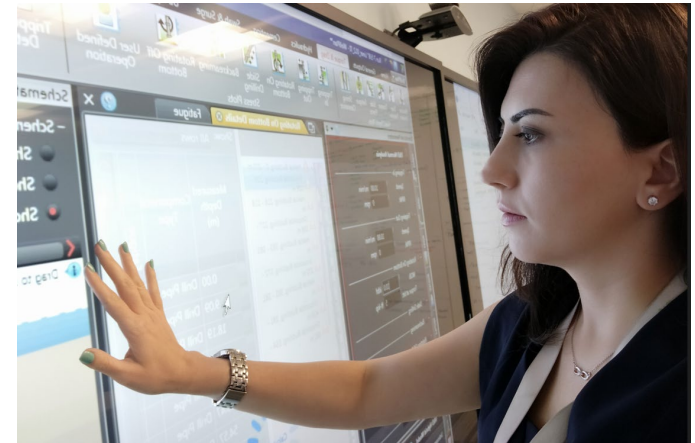
How does what I do make the world a better place?

It is very important to keep equipment or pipework in good condition, for people's safety and to protect the environment. I think twice before making any decision. I always work with people on site who are doing physical work and I listen to their concerns.

A scientist just like me

What I like about my job

In this role I do everything that I like, and continuously learning is part of it. I work with different teams from across the world, some in refineries, some working on new alternative energy projects. I am also leading some digital global projects which is essential for my company.



Challenges I have faced

While everybody expected me to get married and work as a teacher, I chose to build up my career as an engineer. I did not listen to those biased conversations about how engineering was too difficult and was not for women.

A scientist just like me

If you want to be a corrosion engineer, you need:

- ✳️ to **learn about different materials** and their chemical, physical properties
- ✳️ **to be keen to learn** continuously and develop analytical skills
- ✳️ **to have a good imagination,** creativity and be ready to have fun 😊
- ✳️ to be good with subjects **like chemistry,** maths and physics.



A scientist just like me

Discussion time

- ✦ Would you like to be a corrosion engineer like Gunay Shamilova?

Why? Why not?

- ✦ What skills and interests do you already have that would help you become a corrosion engineer?
- ✦ What new skills and knowledge would you need to develop?



A scientist just like me



Gunay Shamilova is a STEM ambassador. Click [here](#) to access free STEM Ambassador support and resources.

Free supporting resources for corrosion engineering

[Science at Work](#) – See 'Meet two engineers'

[Science & STEM Clubs](#) – See 'Engineering Our World'

[I bet you didn't know...](#) articles use cutting-edge science research as a context for learning. Teacher Guides describing the research and activities and investigations for children can be used as classroom presentations. See:

- What small magnetic robots can do

Created by the Primary Science Teaching Trust

