

A SCIENTIST JUST LIKE ME



Kelsey Archer Barnhill
Deep Sea Ecologist

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Hi there! I am Kelsey Archer Barnhill – a deep sea ecologist

Where do I work?

I work at the University of Edinburgh in the Changing Oceans Research Group. I get to travel to oceans around the world to do my research!



What did I like doing when I was at school?

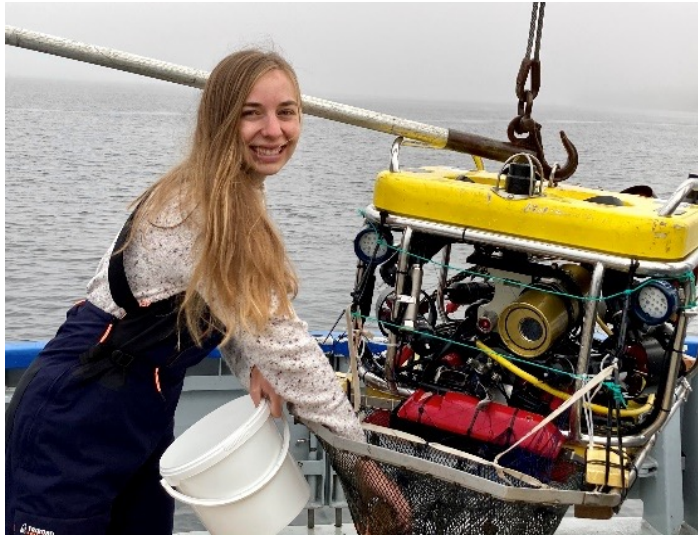
When I was at school, I liked science but thought it was quite hard. My favourite subjects in school were English, history, and languages.

What do I like doing in my spare time?

When on land I love riding my bicycle, reading books and going horseback riding. When at sea I love snorkelling and scuba diving.

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What do I do as a deep sea ecologist?



I sail on ships for weeks at a time to study the deep sea. I work with engineers to send robots down to the seafloor - sometimes 2000 metres deep! These robots collect samples of different animals from the deep sea which I study once they are brought up to the ship.

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

Exploring the deep sea means we discover new exciting environments and animals to protect. I also study how climate change could impact the deep sea and share my results with politicians to encourage them to create policies to protect the ocean.

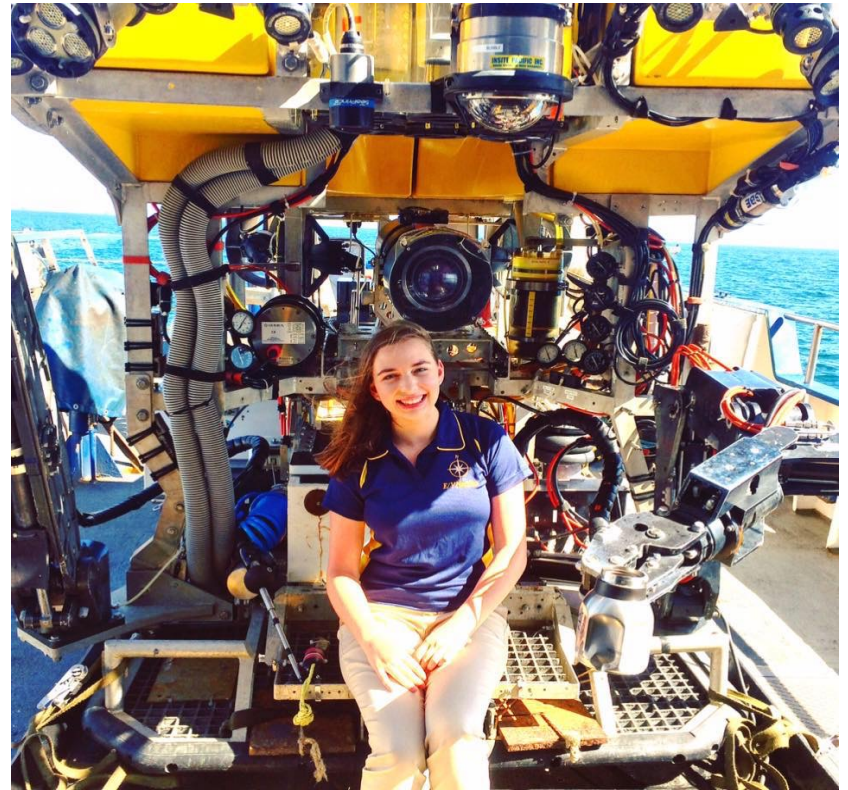
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What I like about my job

I love getting to be an explorer! There is still so much to discover about the world around us. I also really enjoy going out to sea and luckily I don't get sea sick! I've sailed on ships in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans as well as the North Sea.

Challenges I have faced

I've had to move to different countries for my job. It can be hard to live far away from your friends and family – but now I have friends to visit not just in the UK but also in Norway and the USA!



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If you want to be a deep-sea ecologist, you need:

- ✦ **to be creative.** It takes imagination and problem solving to get a robot to the seafloor to retrieve an unusual animal!
- ✦ **to enjoy talking about science.** I talk about my research with lots of people: school children, other scientists, and policy makers.
- ✦ **to like writing** as this is a good way to share your work with other scientists.
- ✦ **to care about the ocean!** 70% of our earth is our oceans, so if you care about the earth you should care about the ocean!



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Discussion time

- ✦ Would you like to be a deep-sea ecologist like Kelsey Archer Barnhill?

Why? Why not?



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

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Free supporting resources for deep sea ecology

Why & How Newsletter (Autumn 2019) – see ‘Microplastics in our seas’

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:

- Whale song is changing
- How to calculate the age of a shark

Created by the Primary Science Teaching Trust

