

# A SCIENTIST just like me



**Emma Wilson**  
**Meta-researcher**

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**Hi there! I am Emma Wilson – A meta-researcher**



## **Where do I work?**

I work at the Centre for Clinical Brain Sciences at the Royal Infirmary in Edinburgh.

## **What did I like doing when I was at school?**

I loved science and art at school. I loved doing experiments in chemistry, solving problems in maths, and making things in art.

## **What do I like doing in my spare time?**

I like reading fantasy novels and sometimes even writing my own stories. I'm also a member of a writing group.

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## What do I do as a meta-researcher?



When different scientists do the same experiment, they sometimes get different results. My job is to investigate how the methods the scientists used may have affected the results. Meta-research can be used to investigate any type of experiment, from biology to astronomy.

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

By investigating the methods scientists used to do their experiments, I can determine the quality of the experiment. For experiments testing new treatments for diseases, this can help other doctors decide what new treatments might work best.

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## What I like about my job

The best thing about my job is that I'm able to work on lots of different projects with scientists from different places all over the world, including Germany and the USA. My diary is really varied with something interesting every day.

## Challenges I have faced

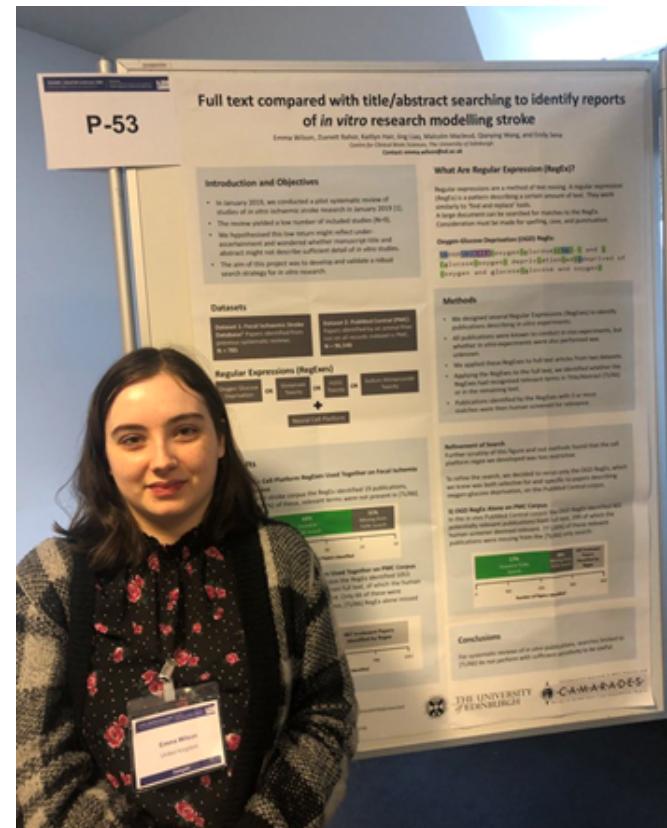
I struggled with self-confidence when I was in school. I was very shy and I was worried that this would affect me in my career. I gained a lot of confidence in university when I received mentoring from professors.



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If you want to be a meta-researcher, you need:

- ✳️ to be **interested** in science, the process of designing experiments and the ways in which it can be improved
- ✳️ to be **curious** and ask questions of the data you are analysing
- ✳️ to **have patience and perseverance** to continue with your work even when your research doesn't turn out the way you thought it would



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## Discussion time

- ✦ Would you like to be a meta-researcher like Emma Wilson?

**Why? Why not?**



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

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## Free supporting resources for meta-research

[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. There are currently over 30 articles explaining different research projects from around the world.

Created by the Primary Science Teaching Trust

