

A SCIENTIST just like me



Edward Thompson
Software engineer

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Hi there! I am Edward Thompson – A software engineer



Where do I work?

I work at a national laboratory run by the Science and Technology Facilities Council.

What did I like doing when I was at school?

I've always liked computers, but at school I didn't know I wanted to be a software engineer - I was more interested in making short films.

What do I like doing in my spare time?

I love hiking and exploring new places. I also enjoy reading, going to the cinema and sometimes I play video games with friends.

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What do I do as a software engineer?



I design and create applications (or 'apps') by writing computer code.

Our apps help other scientists to do their experiments more effectively and process what they find out more quickly.

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

By helping scientists run experiments more effectively, my work allows people to discover more about how the universe works. This helps to improve people's lives in many ways, such as improving medicines, developing vaccines, and exploring new power sources.

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What I like about my job

I really enjoy how my job involves speaking to and working with lots of people, instead of just working by myself all day. I also love how the code I write and the work I do contributes to making the world a better place.



Challenges I have faced

I have dyslexia, so reading big blocks of text can take more time and energy for me. However, my dyslexia is a strength too. It allows me to look at things differently to my colleagues and see solutions that others might not have thought of.

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

- ✱ to **enjoy problem solving** and learning new things
- ✱ to be **interested in computing** and technology
- ✱ to **enjoy talking with others** as you will often be working in a team and speaking with 'clients'
- ✱ **to be patient** when things do not work the first time and be comfortable asking for help - sometimes you will get stuck and that's ok!

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    <li href="home-events.html">Home Events</li>
    <li href="multi-col-menu.html">Multiple Column Men
    class="has-children"> <li href="#" class="current">
    <li href="tall-button-header.html">Tall But
    <li href="image-logo.html">Image Logo</li>
    class="active"> <li href="tall-logo.html">Ta
```



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Discussion time

- ✦ Would you like to be a software engineer like Edward Thompson?

Why? Why not?



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

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