

A SCIENTIST just like me



Daniella Dos Santos
Veterinary Surgeon

A SCIENTIST just like me

Hi there! I am Daniella Dos Santos – a vet



Where do I work?

I work as a small animal and exotic pet vet in the South East of England, helping keep pets healthy and being there to help any sick pets too

What did I like doing when I was at school?

At school I loved science, but I also enjoyed design and technology!

What do I like doing in my spare time?

I love dancing and keeping fit. Both are a good way to relax.

A SCIENTIST just like me

What do I do as a vet?

I work with pets, doing a variety of things from diagnosing illnesses, performing surgery and general check-ups. But there are vets that work with farm animals, horses and zoo animals, as well as those that work in research or teach.



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

Pets are really important companions for their owners' mental health and vets help keep those animals happy and healthy. Farm vets also make sure farm animals have a good life and the food we eat is safe.

A SCIENTIST just like me

What I like about my job



I love working with animals and learning something different every day. No two days are the same, I could be examining litters of puppies and kittens one day, to operating on exotic pets the next. I love making sick pets feel better and see the joy it brings their owners when their pets are healthy again.

Challenges I have faced

Sometimes being an exotic pet vet, I see animals with problems I have never seen before, so it is a challenge to figure out what is wrong and how to make them better. Helping families say goodbye to their very sick, injured or elderly pets is also a difficult part of my job.

A SCIENTIST just like me

If you want to be a vet, you need:

- ✱ **to love animals:** it is a big part of the job.
- ✱ **to love people:** every animal comes with an owner, keeper or farmer who you have to work with to keep animals healthy and food safe.
- ✱ **a curious mind** as so much of what we do as a vet is problem solving, so you have to be curious to find out “why” things happen.



A SCIENTIST just like me

Discussion time

- ✦ Would you like to be a veterinary surgeon like Daniella Dos Santos?

Why? Why not?



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

A SCIENTIST JUST LIKE ME



Daniella Dos Santos is a STEM ambassador. Click [here](#) to access free STEM Ambassador support and resources.

Free supporting resources for veterinary science

Science for One – see 'Foil' for children aged 5-7, 'Playdough' for children aged 9-11.

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:

- Some mammals have unusual backbones
- Slug slime might be the answer for medical adhesives

Created by the Primary Science Teaching Trust

