

# A SCIENTIST JUST LIKE ME



**Dr Juliette Jackson**  
**Coastal Researcher**



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**Hi there! I am Dr Juliette Jackson— A coastal researcher**



## **Where do I work?**

I work in lots of different places. I carry out underwater surveys around the coastal waters of Devon and Cornwall, analyse samples in a laboratory and study data in the office.

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

I liked any opportunity to be outside, especially things like Duke of Edinburgh award. I also liked biology and maths at school.

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

I still love being outside! I enjoy coastal sailing, being on boats in general and snorkelling.

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## What do I do as a coastal researcher?

I promote the conservation and protection of the environment and biological diversity. To do this, I work within a team to research environmental problems, indicators & solutions. I carry out aerial surveys with a drone and a special camera, and subsea surveys using a remotely operated vehicle.



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

These surveys are used for species and habitat monitoring. It is really important to monitor sensitive environments so that we can identify problems quickly and so that we can adjust human activity so that it is not destructive to the sensitive habitats.

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## What I like about my job

I really like the diversity in my job. One day I could be collecting water samples at sea, another day I could be filming under the water, another editing a film and another showing the film to school groups or students at the university!



## Challenges I have faced

I have had lots of job interviews in the past. I always got too nervous. I now apply for tenders for Seadream (an environmental charity) and win work that way. You have to keep looking for opportunities to learn new skills.

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If you want to be a coastal researcher, you need:

- ✦ **to continue to learn new skills** that are diverse – i.e., new computer programmes, using new equipment
- ✦ **to practise presenting data** in different ways and to different audiences
- ✦ **to evaluate and reflect** on the work you do constantly, to make sure it is needed, wanted and of high quality



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## Discussion time

- ✦ Would you like to be a coastal researcher like Dr Juliette Jackson?

**Why? Why not?**

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



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Dr Juliette Jackson is a STEM ambassador. Click [here](#) to access free STEM Ambassador support and resources.

## Free supporting resources for coastal science and biodiversity

[Seashore Science](#) – lessons to carry out at the beach, all with minimal requirements for equipment and preparation, suitable for ages 3-11

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

- About biodiversity and trophic cascades
- Termites can help rainforests survive droughts

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