

ACTIVITY: INTERACTIVE CAREER TALK



ABOUT ICSE SCIENCE FACTORY PROJECT

- International Horizon project
- Coordinator: International Centre for STEM Education, Freiburg, Germany
- Duration of the project: January 2023 – February 2026
- **Objective:** through the networking of schools, colleges, companies and the local community, demonstrate the importance of science in facing real-life challenges and promote the learning of the STEM field related to the experience of the individual.



Activities of ICSE Science Factory project



Lighthouse activities



Supported open schooling



Interactive career talks



Local partnership convention



Local public fair

Increase interest in scientific studies and careers among young people, especially girls.

Interactive Career Talks- AIMS

Encourage interest
in science and
scientific
disciplines

Confront
stereotypical
attitudes about
scientists

Emphasize the
social dimensions
of scientific
careers



ICSEfactory

**Discover, Discuss,
and Decide with
Interactive Talks**

Curious about a career in science? Join our interactive career talks! Designed to spark interest in scientific studies and professions, these sessions cater especially to young individuals at pivotal career-choice moments.

**Interactive
Career Talk**

Check out the ICSEfactory at icse.eu/international-projects/icse-factory

Interactive Career Talks – FORMS OF ACTIVITY

Guest at school

- Activity organized in elementary or high school (or University)
- Duration: 45-60 min

Career talk from the workplace

- Participants come to visit the company, after the tour they take part in the ICT activity
- It is organized live or online

Career day

- activity is held as part of local public fair organized by the ICSE Science Factory project
- Duration: 2-3 hours

Parent-scientist

- Participate in the work of the school attended by your children or nephews
- The activity takes place at school

Interactive Career Talk – ACTIVITY STRUCTURE

- **Presentation part of the activity :**
 - 20-30 minutes
 - the presenter presents their career, career path, current responsibilities, motivation for choosing this profession, challenges as well as positive aspects, ...
- **Interactive part of the activity:**
 - 20-30 minutes provided for open discussion
 - topics agreed in advance or a space is provided for asking questions

How to prepare?

INSTRUCTIONS FOR GUEST SPEAKERS

What to talk about?

- dress in your typical work clothes;
- bring visual aids or prepare a presentation that will contain pictures of your work environment, show the execution of tasks, etc.;
- think about your typical day at work and try to recount it to the participants;
- think about the links between your employment and the subjects you studied at school;
- include personal information related to your occupation (e.g., what your free time looks like, do you encounter stereotypes)

- when and how the motivation to choose a STEM career arose;
- study and career path;
- projects you are currently working on/the most interesting project you participated in;
- benefits from career choice and your current employment;
- challenges you face and stereotypes you struggle with;
- what would you do differently if you were now in the position of the participants?

INSTRUCTIONS FOR GUEST SPEAKERS

How to involve participants in the discussion?

- **Set the topic of conversation/questions:**
 - Do you know what career would you like to choose?
 - Who is thinking about choosing my career? Who would consider choosing another STEM career? Explain your motivation and choices.
 - Why do you think that science is not your "strong side"?
 - What are your thoughts on my career or similar STEM careers?
 - Can you express a stereotype about my profession?
 - Do you think my occupation is important? Why is it important for humanity that people do this work?
 - Give participants advice on how to stay competitive in a rapidly changing job market. Tell us how your workplace and professional requirements have changed over time.
 - Talk about women in STEM. Are there enough of them in STEM studies and enterprises? Is it harder for women to work in the STEM field? Are there any obstacles they face in the workplace?

What students gain from participating in an interactive career talk?



They learn about different science-related careers, expanding the often limited perception of the diversity of STEM careers



They meet scientists in the context of real life and everyday challenges



They have the opportunity to share their career ideas and goals



They explore the difference between school and student life



They have the opportunity to express their fears and prejudices about STEM careers

