

Maths Week Scotland - STEMazing structures talk

STEM Ambassadors are people who work in STEM-focused careers or have a STEM-focused background who volunteer their time to help engage and inspire young learners.



STEM Ambassadors can engage Primary aged learners by running practical workshops, leading short careers talks or supporting teachers by providing meaningful input on topic-specific lessons.

As part of Maths Week Scotland, the STEM Ambassador hub ran several online Maths-themed talks throughout the week open to learners across Scotland. One of our most popular talks was STEMazing Structures, run by one of our most dedicated STEM Ambassadors, Anne Okafor.

Anne gave an exciting interactive talk to Primary aged pupils across the country showcasing how she used maths in her career as a Construction Planner and highlighted the importance of 'The STEMazing 3C's'; Curiosity, Creativity and Courageousness.

Learners were able to try out the '3C's' by taking part in Anne's exciting investigation, where they tested the strength of different shapes by balancing books on four triangular columns and compared this to how many books they could stack on four cylindrical columns. The triangle-shaped columns could hold many fewer books, due to the weaknesses in the edges of the columns, because the circle columns have no edges, they could withstand to hold a lot more weight! Trying different shapes allowed the learners to understand that different shapes work better for different jobs.



Learners loved hearing from Anne and being able to ask her questions directly, asking everything from what the biggest building she has worked on to what her favourite shape was!

Feedback received has been highly positive, with children engaged and focussed whilst proactively learning about the importance of STEM in the real world and getting to experience the 3C's in action!

Arrange a STEM Ambassador visit online or face-to-face

If you would like a STEM Ambassador to be involved in your setting, here is how it works.

Login or register on the STEM database at www.stem.org.uk and add an activity giving as much detail as possible about what you would like the ambassadors to do, and we will do the rest.

When you add an activity, Ambassadors can get in touch to register their interest; we also promote the activities through our communications with our volunteers to help you get the right person for your request.

More information on requesting ambassadors can be found in our [Teachers Guide to STEM Ambassadors](#).

Ambassador offers

Not sure how you would like a STEM Ambassador to help? Why not browse our ambassador [offers](#).

Many of our ambassadors have created examples of presentations or workshops they are willing to deliver to help you engage with them. For more information click [here](#).

From marine mammal presentations to an insight into a career in clinical research, there is something for everyone. <<

✓ Aim

Helping people to overcome and raise awareness of maths anxiety.

📄 Description

As a National Numeracy Champion - I would be happy to talk with individuals or groups who may be suffering from or supporting people who are challenged with Maths Anxiety. I have my own experience of overcoming Maths Anxiety to pursue a career in construction and would like to help anyone else who may feel challenged when it comes to finding strategies for overcoming their own issues with Maths Anxiety. I can mentor or point you in the right direction of resources - this is not maths tutoring but helping to overcome the challenges around facing everyday maths.

🏠 Areas Of Expertise

Biology Chemistry Mathematics Physics Computing
Engineering Technology Construction