Science & Conservation Leader Show and Tell:
How You Make a Difference
Speaker Guide

Presentation Goal
To show students the tools you use as scientist and tell students how you make a difference in your field!

Your Audience
• Kindergarten - 5th grade students from City Heights’ public schools.
• These in-school programs build belief in students that a scientist is someone they can be and science is something they can do.

Presentation Guidelines
Students are learning about how they can make a difference as scientists in their communities: help them see how that can be done in many different fields!
• You will speak to 2 – 3 classes of students for approx. 20 minutes. To prepare please include:
  o A simple overview of your career,
  o A physical item that helps you do research/make a difference (that students can touch),
  o Questions to ask students about their love of science, and
  o Be ready to answer questions students have about you!
  o Please communicate in advance if there is a short video/photos you would like to show. No PowerPoint presentations, please.

Presentation Suggestions:
• Many of our students are English Language Learners, so please keep your vocabulary simple and start with the basics.
• Encourage participation! Get to know the students and their interests by asking them broad, open-ended questions. They love to share what they know with you!
• Relate your career to something the students are familiar with.
  o An engineering professional might say... “Engineers like me can learn how to improve our designs by studying how kelp moves with the waves underwater.”
  o A technology professional might say... “We need wires and cables for our telephones and electricity. When those are put in nature, sometimes even underwater, we want to make sure we protect that area so we don’t cause harm to habitats like the kelp forest.”

Mentorship Tips
• As a guest scientist, you are seen as a mentor by these students, even for just the day. These tips will help you and the students gain the most from this experience. For more information, please watch our Short Term Mentorship Training video.
  o Help students see themselves as scientists. This will increase their science identity.
  o Share your own science stories that they could relate to. This will develop students’ sense of belonging.
  o Encourage their belief in themselves and their ability as scientists. This will build their science self-efficacy.
  o Be aware of your world view and know it could be different from the students’. This will help you be culturally responsive.
  o Assess students’ understanding of science by asking questions. This will help you meet them where they are at.

Location & Timing:
11:00 AM – 12:30 PM
Ocean Discovery Institute
4255 Thorn St., San Diego, CA 92105

Contact Information:
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For a list of available dates, please see our Calendar of Opportunities at https://oceandiscoveryinstitute.org/volunteer/
If you would like any support, we are happy to review and provide suggestions on your presentation prior to your arrival. Please direct any questions to the contact information listed above. We look forward to having you!