



South Lincolnshire --- Academies Trust

Careers Education

JOB
OF THE WEEK

Aspire | Challenge | Achieve

JOB

OF THE WEEK

Our Job of the week this week is a
Palaeontologist



Job of the Week – Palaeontologist

WHAT YOU DO



In this role you could be:

- collecting data and samples on field trips
- managing volunteers on field trips
- examining and testing samples in the lab
- doing research and publishing your findings
- planning and delivering lectures, developing courses and workshops
- recording and classifying samples and collections
- giving talks and managing displays and exhibitions
- writing articles for scientific websites and magazines
- providing expert advice for broadcasters on programmes
- Carrying out jobs in dusty conditions, or working outdoors in all weather and at height

SKILLS REQUIRED



You will need:

- maths knowledge
- knowledge of geography
- analytical thinking skills
- excellent verbal communication skills
- science skills
- excellent written communication skills
- knowledge of physics
- knowledge of chemistry, also safe use and disposal of chemicals
- to be confident with a computer and main software packages

WHAT YOU WEAR

This depends on your location. You may be required to dress smartly in office wear, a lab coat or outdoor clothes and maybe PPE



WORKING CONDITIONS

You could be working:

- in an office
- in a museum
- at a university
- in a laboratory

Your working environment may be physically demanding and you may spend nights away from home

WORKING HOURS

39-41

Including evenings, weekends, bank holiday away from home

ANNUAL LEAVE

28 days

Depending on nature of your job role and contract



ANNUAL INCOME

Starter £20,000

Experienced £60,000



EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE



You will need the following to become a Palaeontologist:

- 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, including English, maths and science
- 2 or 3 A levels, or equivalent, including a science, for a degree
- a degree for postgraduate study (botany, Earth sciences, geology, palaeontology, zoology)

Some employers, like museums or oil and gas companies, may ask for a postgraduate qualification such as a MGeol, MBiol or MSci

Other employers, like universities or research institutions, will expect you to have completed, or be working towards, a PhD in your specialist area of interest

Progression:

- You could work as a geological surveyor, a consultant in mining and mineral exploration, or the oil and gas industry
- You could move into university teaching and research
- The skills you gain are also valued in the scientific media, TV and the financial sector

Labour Market Information

In the Careers section of the school website you can find the useful comparison tool the 'Labour Market Information widget'

Use the widget to compare different job roles in any employment sector or relating specifically to the 'Job of the Week'.

Physical scientists	Biological scientists and biochemists	Higher education teaching professionals
<p>Weekly Pay £960</p> <p>Hours/Week 42h</p> <p>Annual Pay £49,920</p> <p>Hourly Pay £23</p>	<p>Weekly Pay £780</p> <p>Hours/Week 37h</p> <p>Annual Pay £40,560</p> <p>Hourly Pay £21</p>	<p>Weekly Pay £1,020</p> <p>Hours/Week 35h</p> <p>Annual Pay £53,040</p> <p>Hourly Pay £29</p>
<p>Workforce Change (projected)</p> <p>Growth 5.1%</p> <p>Replacement 39.9%</p> <p>The workforce is projected to grow by 5.1% over the period to 2027, creating 1,500 jobs. In the same period, 39.9% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 12,000 job openings.</p>	<p>Workforce Change (projected)</p> <p>Growth 5.1%</p> <p>Replacement 39.9%</p> <p>The workforce is projected to grow by 5.1% over the period to 2027, creating 5,400 jobs. In the same period, 39.9% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 42,600 job openings.</p>	<p>Workforce Change (projected)</p> <p>Growth 9.4%</p> <p>Replacement 60.5%</p> <p>The workforce is projected to grow by 9.4% over the period to 2027, creating 16,800 jobs. In the same period, 60.5% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 108,500 job openings.</p>
<p>You might find this job in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Architectural & related Scientific research Education Head offices, etc Health 	<p>You might find this job in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health Scientific research Education Public admin. & defence Architectural & related 	<p>You might find this job in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Scientific research Services to buildings
<p>More info</p> <p>Clear card</p>	<p>More info</p> <p>Clear card</p>	<p>More info</p> <p>Clear card</p>

Physical scientists

Physical scientists study relationships between matter, energy and other physical phenomena, the nature, composition and structure of the Earth and other planetary bodies and forecast weather conditions and electrical, magnetic, seismic and thermal activity.

Common tasks in this job:

- conducts experiments and tests and uses mathematical models and theories to investigate the structure and properties of matter, transformations and propagations of energy, the behaviour of particles and their interaction with various forms of energy;
- uses surveys, seismology and other methods to determine the earth's mantle, crust, rock structure and type, and to analyse and predict the occurrence of seismological activity;
- observes, records and collates data on atmospheric conditions from weather stations, satellites, and observation vessels to plot and forecast weather conditions;
- applies mathematical models and techniques to assist in the solution of scientific problems in industry and commerce and seeks out new applications of mathematical analysis.

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Biological scientists and biochemists

Biological scientists and biochemists examine and investigate the morphology, structure, chemistry and physical characteristics of living organisms, including their inter-relationships, environments and diseases.

Common tasks in this job:

- studies the physical and chemical form, structure, composition and function of living organisms;
- identifies and studies the chemical substances, including microbial infections, involved in physiological processes and the progress of disease;
- performs tests to study physiological and pathological characteristics within cells and other organisms;
- researches the effects of internal and external environmental factors on the life processes and other functions of living organisms;

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Higher education teaching professionals

Higher education teaching professionals deliver lectures and teach students to at least first degree level, undertake research and write journal articles and books in their chosen field of study.

Common tasks in this job:

- prepares, delivers and directs lectures, seminars and tutorials;
- prepares, administers and marks examinations, essays and other assignments;
- advises students on academic matters and encourages independent research;
- provides pastoral care or guidance to students;

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To compare the Labour Market Information of different job roles that you might be interested in please visit the Careers section on the school website.

JOB

OF THE WEEK

Click on the website links to research the job role further:

[Palaeontologist | Explore careers | National Careers Service](#)

[How To Become A Palaeontologist | Explore Jobs | UCAS](#)

[The Palaeontological Association | Reg. Charity No. 1168330 \(palass.org\)](#)

[How to become a palaeontologist | Natural History Museum \(nhm.ac.uk\)](#)

[*Check out the Natural History Museum's YouTube channel!*](#)