

# Job of The Week

## Zoologist

### Key Skills

- knowledge of biology
- excellent verbal communication skills
- the ability to work well with others
- science skills
- the ability to read English
- Maths knowledge
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- excellent written communication skills
- confident using a pc and the main software packages

### Salary

£18,000 - £48,000

### Working hours

38 – 40

Weekends/ Evenings/  
Bank Holidays

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# Zoologist

## Top Tips

Doing an internship during the summer of your second or last but one year at university can also help you gain useful knowledge and skills.

Volunteering in conservation work is a good way to strengthen your application for university courses. Many opportunities will go unadvertised, so you may need to contact organisations direct

## Post 16 Studies

You could take a college course to give you some of the skills such as:

- Level 3 Animal Care

### Entry requirements

You will usually need 5 or more GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A\* to C), or equivalent, including Maths, English and Science

You could study A Levels or equivalent in Biology, Applied Science or another science based subject. Geography would be useful for environmental subjects and Psychology for behaviour

## University

You could study for a degree in a subject like:

- Zoology
- Animal ecology
- Animal behaviour
- Conservation
- Marine biology
- Environmental biology

### Entry requirements

You'll usually need 2 or 3 A levels, or equivalent, including biology for a degree and a degree in a relevant subject for postgraduate study

You'll need a relevant postgraduate qualification like a master's degree or PhD for some jobs, particularly in research. Some degree courses offer a placement year where you can gain relevant experience in areas like conservation



**You could work in various sectors and you'll usually specialise in one of the following areas:**

Herpetology - reptiles  
Entomology - insects  
Ornithology - birds  
Parasitology - parasites  
Paleozoology - fossil remains  
Ecology - animal environments

**Day to Day tasks could include:**

- carry out field and lab research
- study animals in their natural environment or in captivity
- identify, record and monitor species
- gather and interpret information
- use procedures, like computerized molecular and cellular analysis, and in-vitro fertilisation
- produce detailed technical reports
- give presentations and publish information in journals and books
- supervise technicians

## Career path and progression

With experience, you could move into other jobs like management, marketing, sales, scientific journalism or consultancy

You could also work and study overseas

## Working conditions

You could work in a laboratory or at a research facility

Your working environment may be outdoors some of the time and you'll travel often

# 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'.

Biological scientists and biochemists	
Weekly Pay <b>£780</b>	Annual Pay <b>£40,560</b>
Hours/Week <b>37h</b>	Hourly Pay <b>£21</b>
<b>Workforce Change</b> (projected)	
Growth <b>4.2%</b>	Replacement <b>39.6%</b>
<p>The workforce is projected to grow by 4.2% over the period to 2027, creating 4,500 jobs. In the same period, 39.6% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 42,600 job openings.</p>	
<p>You might find this job in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health</li> <li>Scientific research</li> <li>Education</li> <li>Public admin. &amp; defence</li> <li>Architectural &amp; related</li> </ul>	
<a href="#">More info</a>	<a href="#">Clear card</a>

Animal care services occupations n.e.c.	
Weekly Pay <b>£260</b>	Annual Pay <b>£13,520</b>
Hours/Week <b>26h</b>	Hourly Pay <b>£10</b>
<b>Workforce Change</b> (projected)	
Growth <b>9.7%</b>	Replacement <b>56%</b>
<p>The workforce is projected to grow by 9.7% over the period to 2027, creating 7,400 jobs. In the same period, 56% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 42,900 job openings.</p>	
<p>You might find this job in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agriculture, etc</li> <li>Veterinary</li> <li>Sport &amp; recreation</li> <li>Education</li> <li>Libraries, etc</li> </ul>	
<a href="#">More info</a>	<a href="#">Clear card</a>

Managers and proprietors in forestry, fishing and related services	
Weekly Pay <b>£690</b>	Annual Pay <b>£35,880</b>
Hours/Week <b>56h</b>	Hourly Pay <b>£12</b>
<b>Workforce Change</b> (projected)	
Growth <b>3.6%</b>	Replacement <b>69.2%</b>
<p>The workforce is projected to grow by 3.6% over the period to 2027, creating 500 jobs. In the same period, 69.2% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 9,500 job openings.</p>	
<p>You might find this job in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agriculture, etc</li> <li>Education</li> <li>Sport &amp; recreation</li> <li>Other personal service</li> </ul>	
<a href="#">More info</a>	<a href="#">Clear card</a>



# Labour Market Information



## 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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## Managers and proprietors in forestry, fishing and related services

Managers and proprietors in this unit group plan, organise and co-ordinate the activities and resources of forestry, fishing, animal husbandry and related operations and establishments.

Common tasks in this job:

- determines financial, staffing and other short- and long-term needs;
- manages and trains staff;
- decides, or advises on, type of animal to be bred and/or trained, and selects, buys and trains animals accordingly;
- plans and directs the establishment and maintenance of forest / woodland areas and regularly inspects forest work;

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## Animal care services occupations n.e.c.

Workers in this unit group care for animals held in kennels, stables, zoos and similar establishments, provide specialised training, grooming, clipping and trimming services for animals, and searches for and captures stray or nuisance dogs in public areas and perform a variety of animal care tasks not elsewhere classified in MINOR GROUP 613: Animal Care and Control Services.

Common tasks in this job:

- feeds, washes, grooms, trims and exercises animals;
- cleans animals' quarters and renews bedding as necessary;
- houses, feeds, exercises, trains, grooms horses, dogs and other animals in preparation for entry to shows, races and other events;
- checks animals for illness, treats minor ailments or calls for vet if further treatment is required;

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Keep looking...

Use these links to learn more about our Job of The Week, consider the various pathways leading to the career, what you can be doing now to help yourself and other roles in the industry...

## Useful Websites

[Zoology courses | UCAS](#)

[Careers, Benefits, Internships | WWF \(worldwildlife.org\)](#)

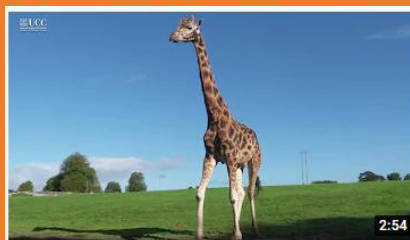
[Zoologist | Explore careers | National Careers Service](#)

[What can I do with a zoology degree? | Prospects.ac.uk](#)

[Charity careers | Animal welfare careers | RSPCA careers](#)

Take a look at these short videos for inspiration...

What is Zoology?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2RbFedaFPgA>

The World Wildlife Fund



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tss6HtHLLuw>

Study Ecology and Conservation at Brighton



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2EDIUpi4-EY>

Become a Zoologist



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6cecpBw4iZY>

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