

Careers Chat



ABOUT JINGYI LI

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MY JOURNEY INTO SCIENCE

I wasn't the child who was brilliant at the sciences and maths. I preferred subjects like languages, politics, and history. However, my curiosity about the world always kept me exploring different ideas. Even though science wasn't my best subject, my parents always encouraged me to tackle every challenge, no matter how small, with the same energy. This taught me to be resilient and how to problem-solve independently. It didn't matter if it was a treasure hunt or deciding on my independent journey to a university in a different country – I gave it my all. As I grew, I learnt to embrace new experiences. For me, science is less about 'eureka' moments and more about applying the skills from every aspect of life to naturally connect with my work.

MY JOB

As a researcher focusing on climate change and renewable energy, my world revolves around the interesting potential of geothermal energy. This natural source of heat from the Earth can be used to generate electricity and to heat and even to cool things! My job is like puzzle-solving – I need to bring together information from lots of different sources, work out what we still need to learn, come up with questions to explore this and to think of the best ways to find the answers. I get to interview lots of interesting people from diverse backgrounds, including policymakers and people working in various industries and local authorities. I like this part of my job because it keeps my research moving forwards.

MY HOBBIES

I'm a big fan of reading books. Whether it's philosophy, history, politics, psychology, detective stories, or thrillers, I find them all fascinating. I really enjoy sitting quietly on a mountain or by the sea, just watching the waves and thinking. Sometimes, I can spend a whole afternoon like that! Visiting places with a rich history is fascinating to me, especially museums that tell stories about the past.

A QUESTION I WANT TO ASK

How big an impact could using geothermal energy really have on building a sustainable world?