



STEM Ambassador profile

THOMAS PARDEY
PROJECT MANAGER, ENVIRONMENT

? What do you do?

“ I’m on the Environment Agency’s Flood and Coastal Risk Management Programme as a Graduate Civil Engineer. This allows me to rotate around the different teams within the Environment Agency, gaining experience on different areas of flood management. I’m currently working as a Project Manager.

This role allows me to work on both large and small engineering projects, all of them with different challenges. I work both in the office, which can involve reviewing designs and plans as well as looking after the more managerial side of the projects, whilst also spending time out on site supervising the construction work. This range of different tasks means I regularly make use of all four of the ‘STEM’ subjects on a daily basis.



? How did you get where you are?

“ I took Maths, Physics and Design and Technology at A-level before going on to do a MEng in Civil Engineering at Cardiff University. While studying for my A-levels I still wasn’t sure exactly what I wanted to do, I knew it was in an engineering related subject but couldn’t decide which route to go down. After researching various careers I was eventually drawn to the idea of working on large engineering projects and settled on Civil Engineering. As I progressed through my degree I found an interest in the environmental side of civil engineering and in my Masters year I choose to undertake projects on river basin management, contaminated land and sustainable energy. After university I originally worked for a contaminated land consultant for 2 years. That work involved providing design solutions for land that had previously been contaminated by industry to make it safe for new development.

? What advice do you have?

“ Don’t worry if you can’t decide on a career path. There are so many different careers in STEM beyond the more obvious or well known ones, researching careers is worth it to find out more about what’s out there as you may stumble across something you’d have never heard of before.

? What kinds of activity can you support?

“ I would like to support any activities on STEM in general but around engineering and especially the river and costal management sector is where my knowledge would be most beneficial. I would also like to be involved in activities to encourage women into STEM careers as the lack of diversity is currently an issue in the engineering sector.



How your school can access STEM Ambassadors

We work with schools so that you can access our database of **FREE** STEM Ambassador volunteers, enabling you to incorporate exemplary links to the world of work within your teaching. Each STEM Ambassador has a STEM background – they are usually experts or professionals in their field.

All of our STEM Ambassadors have also undergone an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check to enable them to work with young people in school; and they have also attended an induction session with West Yorkshire STEM staff on how to approach classroom and school-based teaching sessions. To request a STEM Ambassador, email us: ambassadors@wystem.co.uk.

