

CAREER PROFILES:

NAME: FRIEDERIKE EIMER

POSITION TITLE

GREEN-SCHOOLS MARINE OFFICER



AN OVERVIEW OF YOUR JOB:

My job varies a lot throughout the year. We work very closely with schools as we help them in completing the Green-Schools Marine Environment theme. We also organise a lot of competitions, workshops and beach days where students and teachers can participate and get some hands-on experience. I also work for Green-Schools Administration which involved a lot of data handling which I really enjoy.

WHAT'S THE MOST CHALLENGING PART OF YOUR JOB?

For me, the most challenging part is sitting in front of a computer most days. I spent a lot of time sitting down or standing at the desk when I would be rather at the beach. However, the rewards far outweigh the negative sides.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE PART OF YOUR JOB?

I get to teach students of all ages about the wonders and importance of the marine environment. We organise beach days on a regular basis and teaching marine science at the beach must be one of my all time favourite things to do. Especially when there is ice cream afterwards.

A TYPICAL DAY...

There really is no typical day in my job. The tasks vary heavily throughout the year from organising events, creating resources for school to processing the renewal applications when they come in. I have a lot of online meetings where we discuss what events we want to run throughout the year and what tasks need to be done on a day-to-day basis.

WHERE ARE YOU USUALLY BASED?

For the most part, I am based in the home office, but I also travel to Green-Schools events all over the country which is very rewarding.



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HOW DID YOU GET INTO THIS CAREER?

Nature has always played a very big part in my life. I grew up in rural Germany, surrounded by forests. My passion for the ocean developed after a snorkeling session in Galway. After that, I wanted to become a Marine Biologist and did a Bachelor and Masters Degree to achieve that.

BESIDES FORMAL QUALIFICATIONS, WHAT SKILLS OR TRAITS ARE MOST USEFUL FOR YOUR TYPE OF WORK?

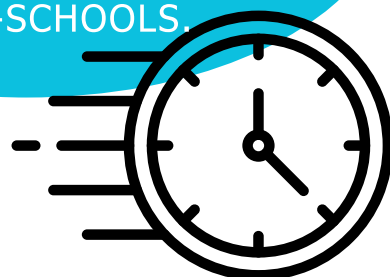
Good communication and organisational skills. Any IT skills will also come in handy.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO A YOUNG PERSON INTERESTED IN THIS CAREER PATH?

Try it out. The best advice I can give is to get a degree in the subject area first and then follow that up with a degree or additional qualification in or outdoor or environmental education. Get as much experience as possible.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN THIS LINE OF WORK?

JUST OVER A YEAR WITH GREEN-SCHOOLS.



WHAT WORK EXPERIENCE, QUALIFICATIONS OR TRAINING WOULD YOU RECOMMEND FOR GETTING INTO THIS CAREER?

Environmental Education is an up-and-coming field especially with more climate focused subjects coming into the curriculum. To be successful in this role you need to have a passion for nature and protecting the environment but also teaching students of all age groups. Having a primary degree in Biology or related Natural Science can be a great first stepping stone. Engaging with Citizen Science programmes or even just going into schools to offer short workshops is a great way to get experience working with kids. Companies like Leave No Trace run Trainer Courses and Awareness Courses which are really helpful.