

Royal Botanic Gardens
Kew

Inspiring futures

Vicky Philpott

Seed Collections Assistant



I am: 1. Enthusiastic
2. Passionate
3. Inspiring

I look after the seeds that come into the MSB from around the world.

My average day ranges from cleaning the collections that arrive from around the world, x-raying the seeds to check for quality, through to banking the seeds and germinating them to make sure they are alive.

I studied for a BSc Hons in Environmental Biology, at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth. During a gap year I worked for the Environment Agency.

My work at the Threatened Flora Seed Centre in Perth, W. Australia, collecting, processing and banking seeds, helped get my job with Kew.

I enjoy working with loads of different seeds and doing things most people haven't even heard of. The problem solving is always interesting.

Science allows me to grow and develop and to apply new ideas and techniques, improving what we do.

If you feel strongly about the environment, then it's a good idea to go for work experience or to volunteer. This would give you an idea if it's the career for you and help you to get to know people in that sector.

The Millennium Seed Bank is a really important resource to safeguard our future food and medicine.



Without our work there could be some species that become extinct in the wild. Or plants that hold the key to medicines we need that would never be found. We are protecting the planet for future generations.

Want a career that grows?

Build your skills in science, technology, engineering, art and maths to give yourself a chance to blossom in a career like one of these varied and exciting jobs at Kew.

You could make a real difference to the world.

For further information: kew.org

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