Developing training for scientists to engage with the public: the story so far...

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To promote the furtherance of learning and to glorify nature
Getting the public excited about your science
Participants’ reflections

• It has helped me feel more confident in presenting and talking about my work to non-specialists.
• It has made me more aware of the importance of science communication.
• I have never worked with children before and was pleasantly surprised that I quite enjoyed it.
• On the primary school session one girl told me she would like to be a scientist too when she grows up; that really made my day!
Audience feedback

- I found the talks really interesting and it made me consider pursuing the field of plant science as a career.

- The matching vegetables game was my favourite!

- Hearing the science explained in an accessible manner by enthusiastic researchers was very stimulating.
- Language barriers
- Cultural attitudes
- Commitment to the training
- Cohort dynamic
- Compulsory vs. self-selecting
- Funding
- Administration
- Collaboration

- Core training module
- Practical opportunities = added value for Botanic Garden
- Reluctant converts
- Self-selecting attendees
- International legacy
- Internal advocacy
- New opportunities
- Collaboration
Concordat for Engaging the Public with Research

Strategic Plan 2013–18

University of Oxford

Museum of the History of Science

Medical Sciences Division

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Into the future...

Enhancing the discovery, understanding, and appreciation of nature since 1621
Top tips
Over to you...

• What has inspired you in today’s session?

• How could you build on what you do already?

• Who could you collaborate with?

• How will your organisation benefit?

• How will you action these ideas when you return home?