

Career spotlight:







Before reading the text, answer these questions:

a) What do you think an environmental Engineer's job consist of?

b) In which engineering fields do you think they work?

Read the text an answer the following questions:

- a) What does sally's job consist of?
- b) What type of task does Sally do?

c) Would you like to do her job? Why/why not?



Sally Environmental engineer What do you do?

On a local level, we design the "mechanical services" in a building which means we'll be looking at the different aspects of what makes a room comfortable which we can control. If you think about the space you're sitting in now, we'll be looking at heating, the relative humidity and the CO² levels which keep the air fresh so you don't get drowsy and fall asleep.

On a larger scale the industry I work for has a really big impact on the greenhouse gas emissions for buildings. That's what really motivates me about the mechanical building services we design. For example, we're looking at new materials that we could make a building out of that can reduce heat loss and make a building more efficient.

What does an average day look like in your job?

I might be in a meeting with clients or my colleagues to discuss their particular requirements for a room in their new building. I might be doing some calculations to see what a room needs or I might be designing these in 3D on a computer.

What has been your favorite project to work on?

We did an energy study on an eco-school. We went in and looked at their energy use and the temperature of the classrooms. It's a timber structure with under-floor heating and it's full of renewable energy so was a really interesting project to work on.

We ran a workshop on sustainable building design with the children and showed them all the aspects of their classrooms that were renewable and sustainable. The children seemed really interested and it was great to see them running around, pointing out all the renewable energy features!

Why should young people think about a career in engineering?

It's a great career and it offers a lot of opportunities. You can work on projects all over the world in a variety of different areas and you can really make a difference to something you're passionate about.