

Research Environmental Scientist Interview Questions

1. Tell me about an experience in which you analyzed information and evaluated results to choose the best solution to a problem.

2. Share a time when you successfully used scientific rules or methods to solve a problem at work.

3. Describe methods you have found useful when collecting, synthesizing, analyzing, managing, and reporting environmental data, such as pollution emission measurements, atmospheric monitoring measurements, meteorological or mineralogical information, or soil or water samples.

4. Share an experience where you provided scientific or technical guidance, support, coordination, or oversight to governmental agencies, environmental programs, industry, or the public.

5. Walk me through how you communicate scientific or technical information to the public, organizations, or internal audiences through oral briefings, written documents, workshops, conferences, training sessions, or public hearings.

6. Tell me about the last time you monitored or reviewed information and detected a problem. How did you respond?

7. Share an example of a time you had to gather information from multiple sources. How did you determine which information was relevant?

8. Provide a time when you were able to identify a complex problem, evaluate the options, and implement a solution. How did the solution benefit your employer?

9. Share an experience in which your understanding of a current or upcoming problem helped your company to respond to the problem.

10. How would you rate your writing skills? (Ask for an example that demonstrates great writing skills.)

11. Provide an example of a time when you were able to demonstrate excellent listening skills. What was the situation and outcome?

12. Provide an example of a time when you successfully organized a diverse group of people to accomplish a task.

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13. What have you found to be the best way to monitor the performance of your work and/or the work of others? Share a time when you had to take corrective action.

14. Share an experience in which you used new training skills, ideas, or a method to adapt to a new situation or improve an ongoing one. (Look for the candidate's ability to learn.)

15. Share an experience in which you successfully coordinated with others. How about a coordination effort that was not as successful?

16. Share an example of when you went above and beyond the "call of duty". (Look for answers that show the candidate is dependable.)

17. Provide an example when your ethics were tested.

18. Share an experience in which your attention to detail and thoroughness had an impact on your last company.

19. How do you balance cooperation with others and independent thinking? Share an example. (Try to determine if the candidate has a cooperative attitude or is otherwise good-natured.)

20. What are some long-range objectives that you developed in your last job? What did you do to achieve them?

21. Tell me about a time when you developed your own way of doing things or were self-motivated to finish an important task.

22. Give me an example of when you thought outside of the box. How did it help your employer?

23. Share a time when you willingly took on additional responsibilities or challenges. How did you successfully meet all of the demands of these responsibilities? (Make sure the candidate is a self-starter and can demonstrate some initiative.)

24. What is the most challenging part of analyzing data to determine validity, quality, and scientific

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significance and to interpret correlations between human activities and environmental effects?

25. Tell me how you organize, plan, and prioritize your work.

26. Share an experience when you applied new technology or information in your job. How did it help your company?

27. Would you consider analyzing data or information a strength? How so?

28. Please share an experience in which you successfully taught a difficult principle or concept. How were you able to be successful?

29. Provide an experience that demonstrates your ability to manage time effectively. What were the challenges and results?

30. Share an experience in which your willingness to lead or offer an opinion helped your company.