

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. What kind of experience do you have performing laboratory work such as logging numerical and visual observations, preparing and packaging samples, recording test results, and performing photo documentation?

3. Describe an experience where you provided technical engineering support in the planning of projects, such as wastewater treatment plants, to ensure compliance with environmental regulations and policies.

4. What is the most challenging part of working with customers to assess the environmental impact of proposed construction or to develop pollution prevention programs?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

12. Share an experience in which you've successfully learned how to handle a new piece of equipment?

13. Share an experience in which you oversaw the assembly, fabrication, construction, maintenance, or

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modification of equipment. How did you communicate to the staff what you wanted?

14. Please share an experience in which you presented to a group. What was the situation and how did it go?

15. Provide an example when your ethics were tested.

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

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

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

19. 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.)

20. Share an experience in which your ability to consider the costs or benefits of a potential action helped you choose the most appropriate action.

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

22. 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.)

23. 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?

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

25. Share an example of when you established and accomplished a goal that was personally challenging. What helped you succeed?

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26. Describe methods you have found effective to inspect facilities to monitor compliance with regulations governing substances such as asbestos, lead, or wastewater.

27. What kind of experience do you have assisting in the cleanup of hazardous material spills?

28. In your experience, what is the key to developing a good team? (Look for how they build mutual trust, respect, and cooperation.)

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

30. Name a time when your patience was tested. How did you keep your emotions in check?