Tips for Workshop Presenters

Thank you for leading a workshop for our Discovery Day in Health Sciences event. Guidance counsellors and science teachers from a variety of schools across the catchment area are invited to select a handful of students in grades 10 – 12 who are interested in science. This career exploration event provides students with the opportunity to learn more about the wide variety of careers in medicine and the health sciences.

1. Briefly describe your academic path to your current position and other career options stemming from that path – students are interested in learning what direction they should follow academically to get to where you are and in other career options that would be open to them through that path.

2. Include an activity or something interactive – (i.e. half of the time spent on presentation/information giving, half of the time spent on an experiment/role play/activities).

3. Use visuals such as pictures, videos and models. Offer handouts if possible so students don’t have to worry about taking notes and can focus more on what you are saying and doing. If using PowerPoint presentations, keep the information on the slides to a minimum and refrain from simply reading them. Too much information on the slides can be overwhelming.

4. Use language and examples appropriate for high school students.

5. Provide clear instructions for tasks or lead students through steps.

6. If using equipment, invite students to test it out themselves (if possible).

7. Leave time for students to ask questions. If this is not possible, and if you feel comfortable doing so, provide your contact information for students to ask you questions that might arise for them afterwards.