

Teacher Notes

I'm a Researcher Get me OUT of here

What is I'm a Researcher?

You can read this to your students to brief them about the activity. It may help to have the website (imaresearcher.uk) up on a projector or interactive whiteboard whilst you describe the activity.

I'm a Researcher, Get me out of here! is a 2 week online activity where you get to connect with real researchers from Oxford University. You get to ask them anything you like and there's competition between the researchers for student votes, so you're in charge!

The researchers in the Machine Learning Zone are trying to answer different questions about Artificial Intelligence, such as:

- How can AI techniques create intelligent robots?
- What ethical issues could arise from using AI in healthcare?
- How can people control the personal information on their phones?

You will get a link to set up your account so you can get involved in the activity at school and from home.

When you first log in, make sure you fill out your profile. Fill in your email address and you will be emailed when your questions have been answered, and to reset your password if you forget it. Your email won't be passed on to anyone else.



Log in any time over the 2 weeks (at home or in school) and send questions to the researchers about anything you like. The researchers will aim to answer your question by the next day and we'll email you to let you know what they've said. Questions stay on the site so you can see what other students have asked, read the researchers' answers and add your own comments to the conversation.



You will get the chance to have a live chat with some researchers in a lesson. You get to instant message the researchers in a group with your class, ask them questions and let them know your opinions.



You get a say in who wins! VOTE for your favourite researcher to win £500. Don't worry if you change your mind, you can change your vote until 3pm, Friday 22nd November.

It's a competition for students too!

One student will win a £20 gift voucher for asking great questions and showing good engagement with the researchers.

Lesson 1: You're the Judges!

Lesson

Lesson 1 – You're the Judges!

Introduce *I'm a Researcher*.

Choose and rank criteria by which to judge the researchers.

Lesson objectives:

- Consider a range of criteria and understand that different (important) values may need to be weighed against each other.
- Develop a sense of democracy and how to decide how to cast a vote.
- Discuss different viewpoints and understand that different values will be important to different people in the class.

Curriculum links:

- Consider ethical, social and practical aspects of research.
- Promotes democracy and SMSC development.

Resources:

- Access to the *I'm a Researcher* website (imaresearcher.uk)
- 'Interactive drag and drop criteria list' or 'criteria cards for printing' from imaresearcher.uk/lesson-1-youre-the-judges
- Generated student registration link for students to access the site from home to complete homework (imaresearcher.uk/student-registration-link)

Starter: 5 minutes

Explain the *I'm a Researcher* activity briefly (use the first page of this booklet and show the website on a projector or interactive whiteboard if possible).

Mindmap "research" – what do students understand about research at the moment? They can do this individually, in pairs, or as a class, and anything goes. This activity is a chance for them to find out more. Keep the mindmaps to compare how the students' ideas change throughout *I'm a Researcher*.

Activity: 30 minutes

- 1) Display the criteria list. Use the interactive drag and drop list, or print the criteria cards for students to use in groups – available at imaresearcher.uk/lesson-1-youre-the-judges
- 2) Ask students to consider which criteria are most important and which are least important to them.
- 3) Rank the criteria and discuss as a class. Can the class agree on a top 5?

Plenary: 15 minutes

- Can students come up with any other criteria that may be important when judging the researchers?
- Take a look at some of the researchers' profiles as a class – how do they fare up against your top judgement criteria?

Suggested Homework:

Generate a registration link for your students at imaresearcher.uk/student-registration-link and give to them to log in at home and ask students to:

- 1) Log in and set up their profiles.
- 2) Read at least 2 researchers' profiles.
- 3) ASK one question on the site.

Suggested adaptations

Support:

Less justification necessary. Lead students into the rationale behind their decisions.

Extend:

Ensure full justifications and explanations are given by students whenever they express an opinion.

Lesson

Lesson 2 – Meet the Researchers

Researcher Speed Dating, a fun, exciting way to 'meet' the researchers.

Lesson objectives:

- Get to know researchers and realise they are normal people!
- Consider some questions students may want to ask the researchers.
- Broaden the students' perceptions of researchers.

Curriculum links:

- Select, organise and present information.
- Evaluate information and make informed judgements from it.
- Learn about real world applications of the subjects students are studying in school.

Resources:

- List of the top five criteria chosen in Lesson 1: You're the Judges!
- Printed copies of each of the researchers' profiles in your zone – there are 10 researchers on the site, so it may be best to have a look before the lesson and print the profiles of the people you would like to focus on in your subject.
- Generated student registration link for students to access the site from home to complete homework (imaresearcher.uk/student-registration-link)

Starter: 10 minutes

Class discussion (you could show the zone home page on a screen as a stimulus here)

- What did the students find out in their homework?
- Whose profiles did they look at?
- What do they think of the researchers so far?
- Have any of your students' questions been answered yet?
- Write a list of questions you could ask the researchers to find out more about their work – keep these for the next activity.

Activity: 30 minutes

1) Split students into groups – give each group a printed researcher's profile to read through together.

What do they think about this researcher? What would they like to ask them on the site?

2) Split each group in half (As and Bs).

As stay where they are as their researcher.

Bs move to another group to 'interview' a different researcher (they can use the questions formed in the starter for this).

3) Move students on after a few minutes so they can interview as many researchers as possible.

Plenary: 10 minutes

Class discussion (you could show the zone home page on a screen as a stimulus here)

- What do they think of the researchers they have "met" today?
- Write a list of questions to ASK researchers on the site.
- Brief students about the live chat lesson (using page 5 and 6).

Suggested Homework:

Students log on and ASK at least one question to a researcher.

If students haven't set up their accounts yet, generate student registration link at imaresearcher.uk/student-registration-link and share it with the class.

Suggested adaptations

Support:

Do the activity as a class with the 'researchers' at the front. Two or three students play each researcher.

Extend:

Go onto the site and submit some questions in ASK for the real researchers.

Lesson 2: Meet the Researchers (alternative version)

Lesson Plans

Lesson

Lesson 2 – Meet the Researchers (alternative version)

This alternative version of Lesson 2 allows for more independent learning if students have access to computers.

Lesson objectives

- Get to know researchers and realise they are normal people!
- Explore the site and interact with real researchers using ASK.
- Broaden the students' perceptions of researchers.

Curriculum links:

- Select, organise and present information.
- Evaluate information and make informed judgements from it.

Resources:

- ICT suite or a computer and projector in the classroom so students can work together with the teacher leading.
- Generated student registration link for students to access the site from home to complete homework (imaresearcher.uk/student-registration-link)

Starter: 10 minutes

Class discussion (you could show the zone home page on a screen as a stimulus here)

- What did the students find out in their homework?
- Whose profiles did they look at?
- What do they think of the researchers so far?
- Have any of your students' questions been answered yet?
- Write a list of questions you could ask the researchers to find out more about their work – keep these for the next activity.

Activity: 35 minutes

If students haven't set up their accounts yet, generate a registration link at imaresearcher.uk/student-registration-link and share it with the class.

1) Get students logged onto the site individually or in small groups.

Ask students to read the profiles of at least 3 researchers (you could assign researchers to each student / group).
What do they think about each researcher?
What would they like to ask them on the site?

2) Class discussion (you could put the zone home page on the screen as a stimulus here)

How does each researcher fare up against your top judgement criteria from lesson 1?
Which researcher's work do students find most interesting?
Who would students VOTE for if they had to choose today?

3) Get students to plan 1 or 2 questions then ASK them on the site.

Remind students there is a £20 prize for the best student questions so they should take their time thinking about what to post.

4) Students can VOTE now – if they change their mind later in the activity, they can change their vote.

Plenary: 5 minutes

Discuss as a class what students have found out today. Brief students about the live chat lesson (using page 5 and 6).

Suggested Homework:

Students log on and ASK at a question to a researcher.

Suggested adaptations

Support:

Give more assistance in thinking up questions.

Lesson 3: Live chat

Lesson

Lesson 3 – Live chat

Chat to real researchers in our online chatroom.
See page 6 for more information on running this lesson.

Lesson objectives:

- Interact with researchers using CHAT.
- Increase the relevance of subjects students learn in school to everyday life.
- Broaden the students' perceptions of researchers.

Curriculum links:

- Apply principles and concepts to unfamiliar situations.
- Make informed judgements about research.

Resources:

- Live chat booking (important: book in advance at imaresearcher.uk/live-chat).
- Access to the website for individuals or pairs

Starter: 5 minutes

Class discussion (you could put the zone home page on the screen as a stimulus here)

- Who is your favourite researcher so far? – Do a show of hands for each person.
- Have any of your students' questions been answered?
- Write a list of questions you could ask the researchers to find out more about their work – keep these for the live chat.

Note – Not all the researchers can make every chat but students will be meeting some of them today. If students were hoping to chat with a specific researcher, encourage them to post their question(s) to that researcher in ASK instead.

Activity: 35 minutes

1) Explain how the live chat works:

- Click the name of the person you'd like to direct your question to (below the typing box) before you start typing.
This makes it easier for the researcher to see your question.
- Click on a comment to reply to it – this links the conversation.
You can see linked conversations by clicking the speech bubbles next to a comment.
- Don't be rude, write in capital letters or spam.
If you do, you'll be blocked from the chat.

2) Get students logged onto the site individually or in small groups.

- Click CHAT at the top of the page to access the live chat.

Plenary: 10 minutes

- If a student's question didn't get answered, they can post it in ASK.
- Students can VOTE for the researcher they think should win.

Suggested Homework:

Students continue to log into the site and ASK questions and VOTE until Friday 22nd November.

Remind students about the extra, evening chats, 7-8pm on Thursdays 14th and 21st November.

Suggested adaptations

Support:

Suggest questions or ask researchers the mindmapped questions from Lesson 2: Meet the Researchers.



During the live chat lesson

Let your students know that there will be a moderator in the chat who is there to help keep the conversation on track, remove inappropriate comments and ban disruptive pupils.

During the live chat, students will be talking to researchers who have given up their time to chat with them. Encourage students to interact with the researchers, and not just amongst themselves. They can ask anything they want, and should also express their own opinions about the work that the researchers do.

Log in using your Teacher account to:

- Follow and join the chat – anything you say will have a special teacher icon by it.
- Temporarily ban students with the  icon next to a chat line, normally for 60 seconds.
- Download a copy of the transcript once the chat has ended.

Note – should you need to identify a student during the chat, look at the top right-hand corner of their computer screen to see their username.

After the chat, remind students to post any unanswered questions in ASK, and to VOTE for their favourite researcher.



How voting works

Students can vote for their favourite researcher at any time during the competition and can change their vote throughout the two weeks. Their vote will be counted at 3pm on the final Friday and the winning researcher will be announced in a news post on the website and emailed to students who have left their email address on their profile.

After the activity

- Please do fill in the feedback survey we email to you. You are the expert on what happened in your classroom and your feedback will help us to continuously improve the activity.
- In each zone the researchers and moderators pick a student winner, someone who asked good questions and really engaged with the activity. The student winner will get a certificate and £20 gift voucher prize – we'll let you know if this is one of your students.

Contact

If you need any help please email admin@imaresearcher.uk or call 01225 326892.

For further information please visit: imaresearcher.uk/teachers