

# FAQ:

## Mr. Ruschman the Science Teacher

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### **Have you always wanted to be a science teacher?**

Nope. In fact, I was 30 something before I started teaching.

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### **What education do you have for being a science teacher?**

I have an undergraduate degree in Environmental Science and a Master of Science degree in Biology. When I finally decided I wanted to teach, it meant going back to school to take classes in education for teacher certification as well as some other science and math classes I had never taken. Then there are all the silly continuing education classes we take. Trust me, if you don't like school now, teaching is not the job for you.

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### **What experience do you have for being a science teacher?**

Working backward, I have been at MCTI since 2011. Before that I taught at Pocono Mountain West Junior High School for six years and Carbon Career and Technical Institute for a year. I was a municipal planner and zoning officer at Stroud Township for five years. Prior to that I worked for a bunch of engineering companies doing environmental and engineering field work for subdivisions and land developments. Of course, I didn't need any of that to teach. But I bet all that real world experience makes me a better science teacher than the ones who graduated college and began teaching.

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## **Do you like being a science teacher?**

I love it. It's the best job I've ever had.

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## **What kind of science do you like the best?**

Earth Science followed closely by ecology. I really hate chemistry and genetics.

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## **Is there anything about science you don't like?**

I think a lot of scientists are as snobby and narrow-minded as the people they criticize for being snobby and narrow-minded. And science is kind of focused on the details, which is often a problem for my brain. But overall, science rocks.

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## **Other than science, what subjects did you like in school?**

History, English, Shop, Chorus. I liked them all. I really like to learn just for the sake of learning. Pretty much the only class I didn't like was math. And that is just because I didn't do well in it. And I didn't do well in because I didn't put the work into it that I should have. And in all honesty, I didn't like a lot of my science classes because the teachers taught out of textbooks, and to me that wasn't doing science. So yeah, I was a dork and enjoy school.

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