

**Elaine Packer****BSc Hons Zoology/2008****Stay at home parent with previous experience in the publishing sector****What experiences do you think have proved beneficial to your career journey?**

Doing field work. Working part-time to prevent employment gaps.

**What impact did the 2008 financial crash have on your career path?**

I had trouble finding a job at a graduate level. I took a data entry job before relocating and finding employment with a scientific publisher. I took jobs at a lower grade than I was qualified for and had to work up. .

**What advice would you give to students thinking about employment in your field?**

Don't disregard any role offered to you. Sometimes these abstract roles are a way of reaching your target career. Research the company you apply for. It's remarkable how little people understand what scientific publishing actually entails; the job roles are not the same as other publishing companies.

**Is there any other advice you would like to give to current students moving from university to working life?**

Employment is more valuable than pride. Good luck! Try not to dwell on lost opportunities, but use it as a time to show how resourceful you can be.