



Meet the Scientist!



An urban health scientist studies how urban environments affect the health of people living in urban areas.

Dr. Michelle Kondo Urban Health Scientist

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USDA Forest Service scientist



<http://www.naturalinquirer.org>

Important Scientist Characteristics:

Curiosity, critical thinking, and dedication to learning from diverse topics and viewpoints contribute the most to my career.

Example of a simple research question I have tried to answer:

How do new greening projects affect the health and safety of nearby residents? Greening projects usually involve replacing concrete, pavement, and weeds with maintained trees and vegetation.

Technology or equipment used in research:

I use mapping software called geographic information systems (GIS) to map greening projects in a location. GIS also helps me compare changes in nearby health and safety information over time. I also use health-trackers. Health-trackers collect information about a person's location and about a person's body, like heart rate or blood pressure.

Most Exciting Discovery

My research found that small greening projects can reduce nearby crime and reduce stress for nearby residents.

When did you know you wanted to be a scientist?

When I was younger, I was not taught to believe I could become a scientist. Following my interests, and the belief that I had a right to a higher education, has brought me to where I am now.

<http://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/people/michelleckondo>