

# national science week 2013

## Sonita Singh

Discovery Ranger

Parks and Wildlife Service Tasmania



I grew up in northern Tasmania playing on beaches, farms and in the bush. I was enchanted by the stories and secrets that can be discovered in nature such as seeing mushrooms spring up out of the ground after rain and watching a frog's egg develop first into a tiny tadpole and finally into a new frog that jumps away to find another home. I was influenced by my mum who always loved finding shells on the beach and bushwalking and I was inspired by the wonderful nature documentaries by David Attenborough that I watched on TV.

My love of nature led to an interest in science which is a way of explaining and studying the world. I read books about animals, plants and science in general, eventually studying chemistry at the University of Tasmania. This experience gave me the opportunity to work with inspiring people in a range of interesting jobs around Australia including solar cell development, photosynthesis research and teaching.

I have also participated extensively in conservation projects which involved removing introduced weeds from natural bushland, planting native trees and surveying animal populations. I recently returned to Tasmania and hope to contribute to developing and protecting our beautiful state.

I now work for the Parks and Wildlife Service Tasmania delivering tours, activities and talks to teach people about Tasmania's unique natural and cultural heritage. I work in national parks, schools and at community events. Over the summer I was posted at Mount Field National Park which is very popular with locals and tourists and provides a snapshot of Tasmania's natural diversity. I most enjoyed taking visitors on night time tours in the forest to see the captivating lights of glow worms which lure their prey towards a trap of sticky silk threads. I love sharing my interest in nature and providing people with hands on experiences that help them to understand, appreciate and protect our beautiful and fascinating environment.

For further information: [www.parks.tas.gov.au](http://www.parks.tas.gov.au)

