

Science Outreach at the University of Nottingham

Ann-Kathrin Kotte, University of Nottingham, August 2011

The University of Nottingham holds events in which it shares some of its research with a wider public. I have participated in several events, explaining why people cannot eat orange peel to four-year olds, explaining why it is a good idea to use this orange peel to produce biofuels to the kids' parents, and explaining how to generate genetically modified bacteria which are capable of converting orange peel into biofuels to A-level students. Sharing our research was a very positive experience. We could raise awareness for current issues such as renewable energies, and many people appreciated being able to ask questions which concern them. I particularly enjoyed being able to give something back to the public as in the end it is their tax money which allows us to conduct research. A nice side effect of attending the events was that it reminded me that our research really is fascinating.