

WHO ARE THE WOMEN INVOLVED IN STEM?



Kellee Reissinger
Horticulturist
Zoos Victoria



PROFESSIONAL

Top-level responsibilities

Managing exhibits at Werribee Open Range Zoo. I select and grow specific plants for the animals to eat, or for enrichment in their enclosures, in terms of smell, texture, stripping the bark etc.

Day-to-day skills

Plant selection, sowing, pruning and propagating for exhibits and grounds.

WHAT I WANTED TO BE WHEN I GREW UP

A park ranger! I always wanted to work with plants, and the Grampians National Park (Gariwerd) has been my favourite place since I was young.

I grew up in a Kombi, and my family loved camping all around Victoria, including in the Grampians (Gariwerd).

I did an Advanced Certificate in Horticulture at the Gordon TAFE in Geelong.

PERSONAL

Current location and community

Little River, Victoria.

My interests and hobbies

I love crocheting, reading and spending time out in my garden.

I am passionate about

The environment, conservation of plants and animals, sowing plants from seed and watching them grow.

What I would say to 16-year-old me

You did great! Your career choice was spot on, you followed your passion and heart.



I did an apprenticeship at RMIT in Melbourne.

In the future I would like to study to be a botanist.

I then won a scholarship at RMIT to live and work in Japan for a year.