

A photograph of a male worker in a red hard hat and yellow safety glasses, focused on his task. He is wearing a grey t-shirt and dark gloves, and is working on a large, dark metal structure. The background is a blurred industrial setting with blue and grey tones.

Balancing on a platform, miles out to sea; analysing mud from hundreds of metres below the sea bed; determining the location of vital new oil and gas reserves. Rain, hail or shine, geochemists who work in the oil industry regularly do this.

The activities of these chemists can take them just about as far from a laboratory and a white coat as you get. But then people with a training in chemical sciences are welcome in almost any industry you care to mention. That's because the creativity and logical thinking skills they develop are welcome in everything from geological prospecting, art restoration and food processing to marketing, banking and law.

Quite simply, chemistry not only helps you understand the world. It opens it up to you. Find out more about careers using chemistry and the chemical sciences by writing to The Education Department, Royal Society of Chemistry, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BA or email [education@rsc.org](mailto:education@rsc.org)

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*Not all chemists wear white coats*

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