

# Audiologist/ Artist

**Siobhan** is an audiologist/artist who helps people access hearing care and prevent hearing injuries. She says communication is at the heart of everything she does. Siobhan is also an artist with a disability and is passionate about creating more accessible arts practices in Australia. Find out more:

[futureyouaustralia.com.au/pathfinders/siobhan](http://futureyouaustralia.com.au/pathfinders/siobhan)



*“As a disabled artist myself, it’s been a real treat to support initiatives that create more accessible arts practices in Australia.”*

## STEM Meter

How much Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) does this job use?



Source: [jobsandskills.gov.au](http://jobsandskills.gov.au)

## 5 reasons why you should do this job

- 1 Make a difference in people’s lives
- 2 Lots of career opportunities
- 3 Ongoing learning and innovation
- 4 Bringing joy to people
- 5 Improve educational outcomes

### 3 STEM skills required for this job

Psychology

Critical thinking

Biology

### Subjects to develop these skills

English, Mathematics, Science

Science, Mathematics, Digital Technology

Science

# A example of a day in the life of an audiologist

- 7.00am** Time to get up! I love starting my day with a walk around our local lake. Sometimes I'll play an audiobook or call one of my friends who lives abroad. It's my favourite time of the day when everything is quiet and full of potential.
- 8.00am** It's time to head to work, in the car, on the train, the bus or a plane - it all depends on where I'm heading for the day. With my current job, there's a lot of travel. Sometimes in the city, sometimes way out in the bush. I pack my bags and head to the day's destination.
- 8.45am** I arrive at the office, coffee at hand and check in with the other staff. Working in a team means there are always stories and people to meet. I head to my office and give it a quick tidy, making sure I have all the equipment I need for the day. I like to do this so there are no hiccups during the day and things run smoothly.
- 9.15am** The first patient rolls in. If they're a kid, it's maximum fun. We play hearing games, take pictures of their ears, or test how well their eardrums are moving. Within half an hour, we can usually tell how well a child is hearing, and then give recommendations to the parents on what to do next.
- Midday** Time for lunch! It's not too long so I like to head somewhere to get a bite to eat. When your job is listening all day, sometimes it's nice to have a short pause for quiet.
- 12.30pm** Back to it, this time it might be adults, musicians, or patients with chronic tinnitus. The more complex the condition, the more my mind gets buzzing. Often people come holding onto so much worry and distress about their condition, one of the first things we can do is listen. Just by having someone patiently acknowledge all their symptoms, you can see a huge decrease in distress. We then go on to test and address their concerns, sometimes fitting earplugs, and hearing aids or discussing referral pathways. That part is especially important, as audiology can't solve everything alone. We work best in a team with other professionals.
- 4.15pm** The last patient leaves and I open my clinical files on my laptop. Time to write reports for everyone I saw today, and make sure the recommendations are clear.
- 5.00pm** Head out the door, you're done for the day! If I'm remote, it's a short walk to the motel. If I'm in the city, it's a commute in Melbourne.
- 6.00pm** If the weather's fine, I'm out for a walk to the shops to buy groceries for dinner. If my partner cooks, I'll get out the sewing machine and let my mind wander creatively for an hour or two. Some people read books to wind down, I prefer to make clothes. Whatever works for you!