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The Open Source Teaching Project is a non-profit, volunteer collaborative focused on creating a completely free digital media library of interviews of the world's leading scholars, researchers, and professionals. All interviews are targeted to reach and inspire middle through high school students. To date, this initiative has secured the future participation of over 200 of the world's leading researchers and scholars.

The Exact Questions

All interviews are recorded using only digital audio.

1. Could you begin by stating your name and providing a general background about your current work and professional role at this institution?
2. How did you become interested in your field of research? Were you always interested in this field, or did you also seriously consider other fields? How long have you been a researcher?
3. (If applicable) What classes do you currently teach? What are your favorite topics within these courses?
4. What are the specific research questions you are trying to address? How would you explain the importance of these questions to students (middle through high school)?
5. How do you envision your research benefiting the general public “at large” or a more focused section of the public (e.g. medicine, business, technology, research, education, etc.)?
6. Were there any unexpected challenges you came across when performing your research? Could you expand on one or two in particular? What are some lessons learned from these challenges?
7. Are there any unique research tools or strategies used to carry out your work?

If so, could you briefly describe how one or two of these assist in your research?

8. Do you collaborate with others in the investigation of your research question? How does this collaboration usually take place?

9. What do you hope are the implications of your research for future researchers?

10. What are the different ways in which you share the findings of your research?

11. What advice would you have for students (middle through high school) interested in your particular subject area? Are there any specific actions they can take related to reading specific publications, journal, literature, or websites?

12. Do you have any undergraduate or graduate students assisting in your research? What are some actions students should take if they are interested in assisting a professor with their research (if applicable)?

13. Is there any specific advice for newly minted Ph.D.'s that you would have related to pursuing funding related to their own academic research?

14. What do you enjoy most about your research and your job?

15. Any parting words of advice for students interested in a career in your subject area?