

Future Science Leaders

Presented by
Acuitas Therapeutics

Application Workshop

March 13, 2025

2025-2026 Program Year



**We would like to
acknowledge that
we are gathered on
the traditional
unceded territory of
the Coast Salish
peoples.**



Introductions

Agenda

- Application Process
- Application Form
- Short answer questions
- Q&A



“The *FSL* mission is to empower BC’s most inquisitive youth to pursue, achieve, and excel in their STEM aspirations.”

How do we accomplish this?

Meet and learn from professionals in a variety of careers

Create a lifelong network of like-minded peers

Develop the skills critical for a career in science: laboratory skills and science communication

Collaborate with others through scientific projects

Learn to think critically in a scientific context

Application process

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Actions and Deadlines

Early Bird Applications (March 30) *Science World Day Out*


Application Deadline (April 30)

Interviews Offered (~May 5)

Interviews (~May 12-May 30)

Seats Offered (~June 9)

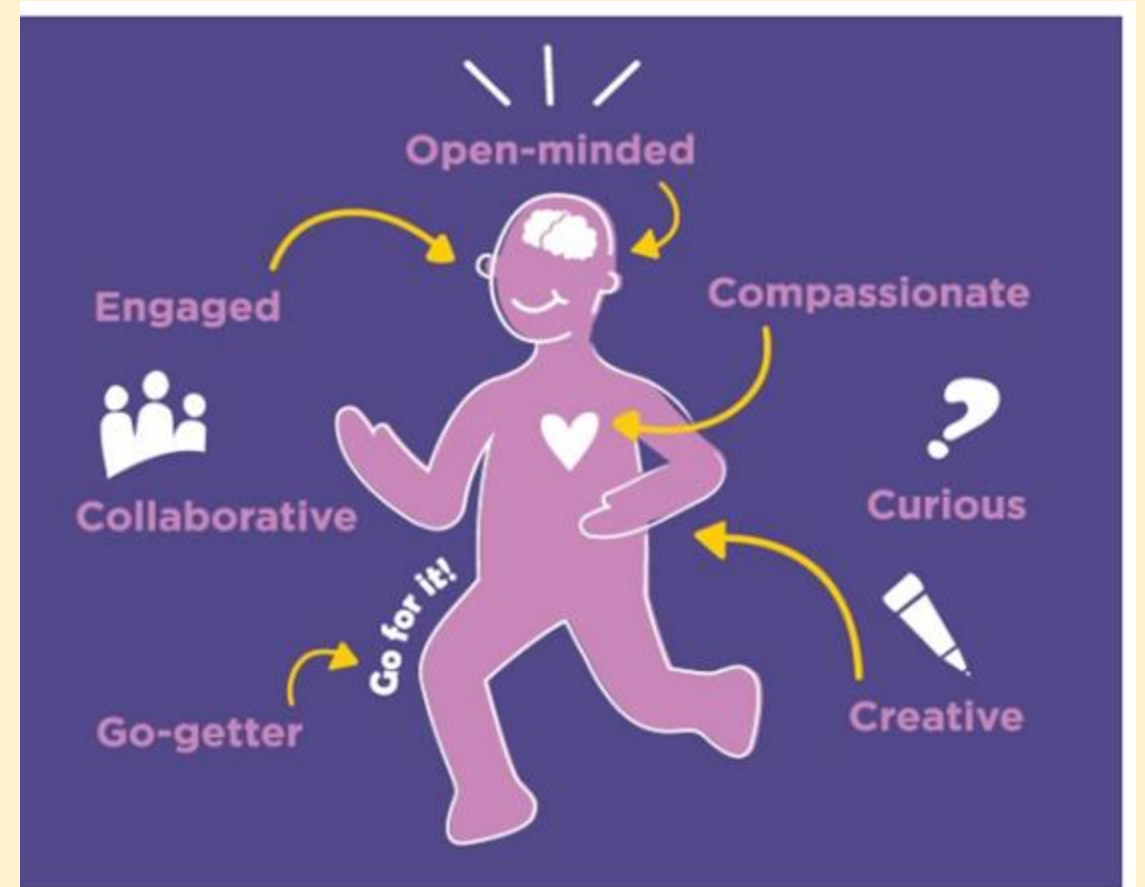
Registration (June 30)

An overhead view of a group of students sitting around a light-colored wooden table. In the top left, a student's hands are visible typing on a laptop with a blue keyboard. In the center, a student with dark hair is writing on a white sheet of paper with a pen. To the right, another student is looking at a document. The table is cluttered with various items including a blue folder, a red folder, a black mouse, and several papers. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

The aim of the application process is to find a good fit between applicants' needs and the experience the FSL program offers.

Eligibility

- **Grade 10 or 11 in September 2025**
- **Born in 2010 or earlier**
- Can demonstrate that they are:
 - Team player (compassionate, collaborative)
 - Internally motivated (curious, go-getter, engaged)
 - Growth mindset (open-minded, compassionate, creative)



HINT: Highlight each of these areas in an application or interview!

Application Process

1. Complete **application** online (February 1st - April 30, 2025)

The application form released on our website

- www.scienceworld.ca/futurescienceleaders/

- Fill out your contact information
- Acquire 1 Academic reference contact information
- Short answer question



Application Process

2. Eligible students invited for an **interview**

- In-person interview
- Includes a Group activity + Individual questions
 - **Team Player, Intrinsic Motivation, Growth Mindset**

3. Registration and fee payment \$1450 + tax

- *We will ensure financial assistance is available to those who need it most, and we look forward to continuing to welcome students from a wide range of backgrounds to our FSL program*
- Fees assure student access to programming, additional workshops, in-person field trips, FSL events, access to scientific equipment, project materials, and STEM mentors



What does success look like in FSL?

- Participating in sessions
- Completing project assignments
- Taking advantage of opportunities
- Use the FSL program to jump-start other activities

70%

What it doesn't evaluate:



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Application Form



<https://www.scienceworld.ca/futurescienceleaders/>

Apply for Future Science Leaders now!

Applications for our 2025-2026 program year are now open to students who start Grade 10 or 11 in September 2025! For more information, see the *How Future Science Leaders Works* info below.

Apply by: April 30, 2025

Apply Now

Future Science Leaders - *Discover* (Year 1) Application Form 2025-2026

This is an application form for the *Future Science Leaders* (FSL) presented by Acuitas Therapeutics - *Discover* Program. *Discover* (also called Year 1) is the first of 3 after-school science enrichment programs designed for youth in BC's Lower Mainland. We engage curious minds with the nature of STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art & design, and math) in sessions led by diverse experts and professionals at Science World in Vancouver, Canada. For more information on the program, please see our website: www.scienceworld.ca/futurescienceleaders/

This application form is for applying to our 2025-2026 program from September 2025 to April 2026.

Application Form

- Your current contact information (preferred first name and pronouns)
- A parent/guardian contact information
- City
- Grade
- School
- Referral

Application Form - References

Academic: someone who knows your academic interests and strengths. Someone who can speak to your *passions, curiosity, teamwork, and communication.*

What's an example of a person to ask for an academic reference?

Asking for a Reference

We ask for one academic reference (teacher, counsellor) to get a better sense of how you participate in a classroom setting, how you work with others, and what can be done to support you in a program.

1. **Think about an adult who could highlight your good qualities.** This might be a recent or current teacher, or an academic advisor.
2. **Ask them in-person** (preferably), explaining what you are applying for and why you think they'd be a good reference.
3. Send them an **email** providing instructions for what you're asking them: You want their **name and email**, and to **complete a reference form in May**.
4. Follow-up with a **Thank You** note, appreciating their time to complete a reference.

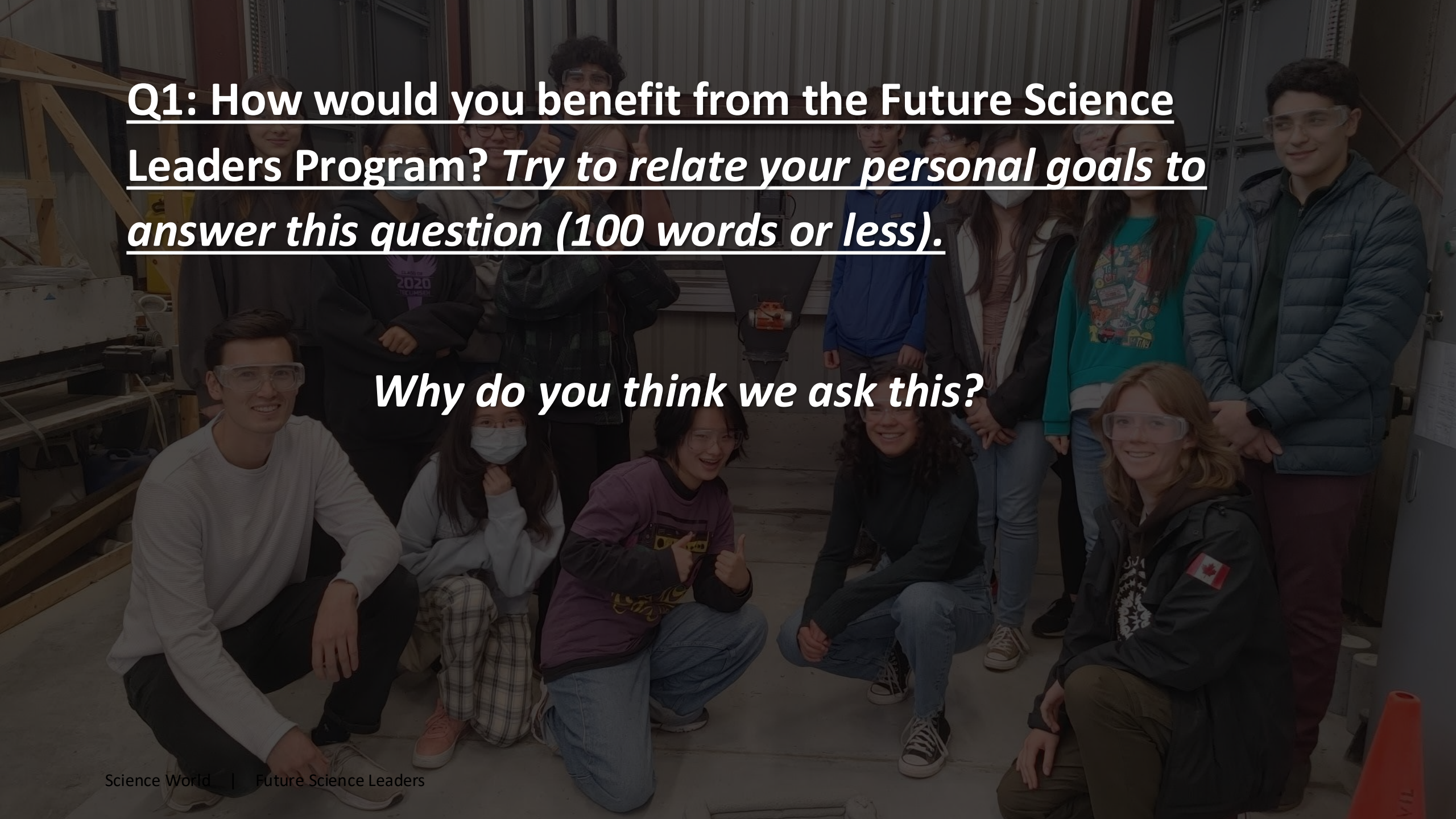
Short Answer Questions

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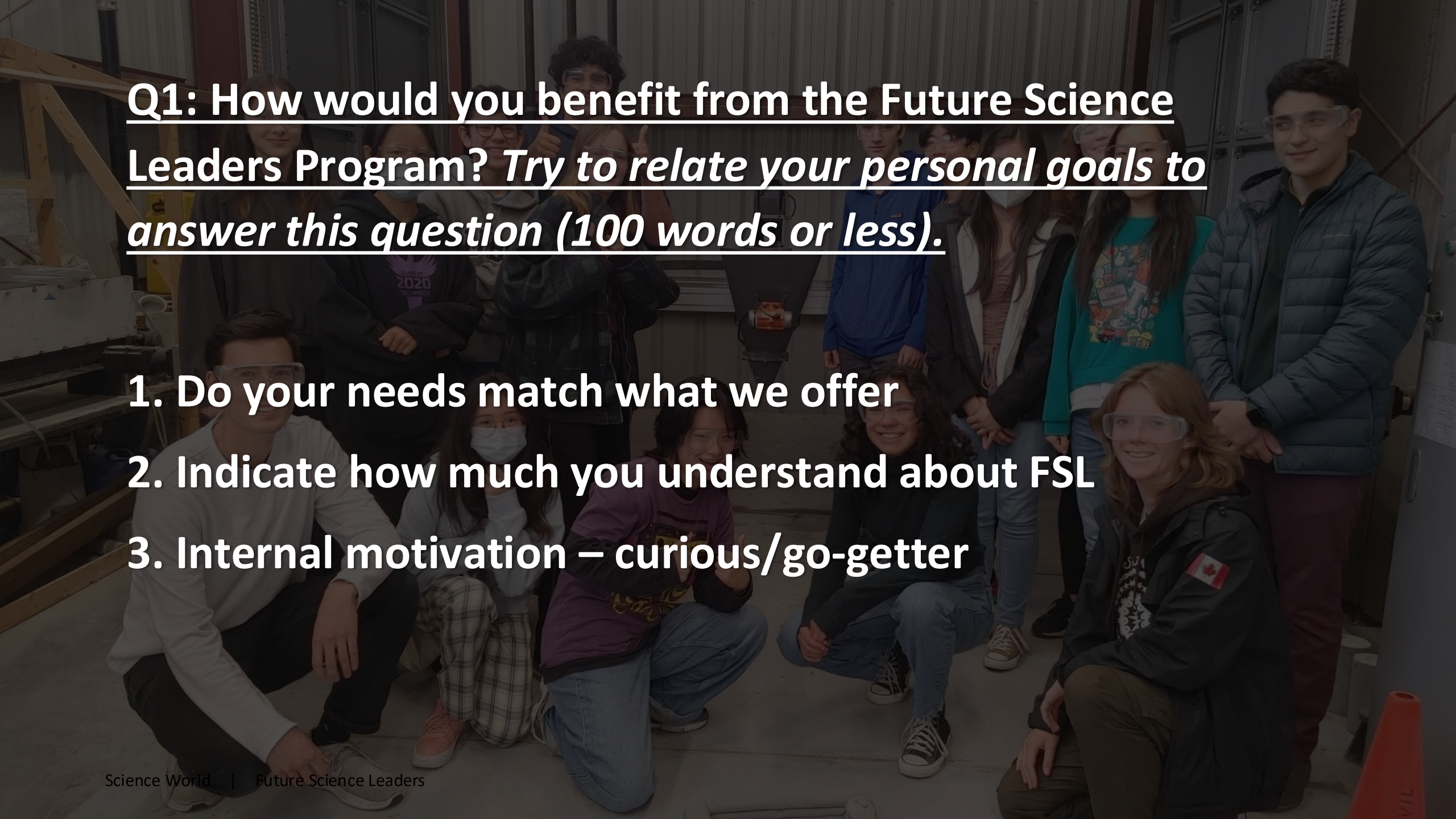
Writing Compelling Responses

- Make a personal connection
- Show your thinking/reasoning
- Reference specific details
- Write in your natural voice (don't sound fancy)
- Reader-centered (stay on topic, concise)



Q1: How would you benefit from the Future Science Leaders Program? Try to relate your personal goals to answer this question (100 words or less).

Why do you think we ask this?



Q1: How would you benefit from the Future Science Leaders Program? *Try to relate your personal goals to answer this question (100 words or less).*

- 1. Do your needs match what we offer**
- 2. Indicate how much you understand about FSL**
- 3. Internal motivation – curious/go-getter**

Which writing has more personal connection, specific details, shows reasoning?

A

I would benefit by being able to grow my network of people interested in similar things. I want to work with like-minded people and learn diverse topics like disease modelling and PCR analysis. I am excited to do a project with others and get to see new workplaces on the field trips.

B

I would like to meet like-minded peers as I feel like I am the only one in my science class who finds it exciting. I want to be able to talk about the things we are learning with others, and FSL sounds like the best place to do so. I think this would also help me build confidence in meeting new people and let me better network better in the future.



VS

What can I help with?

Future Science Leaders is an after-school program for high school students that teaches different STEM topics each week. Write me an answer to the question: "How would you benefit from the Future Science Leaders Program?"

+ Attach

Search

Reason



Analyze data

Summarize text

Surprise me

Get advice

Code

More

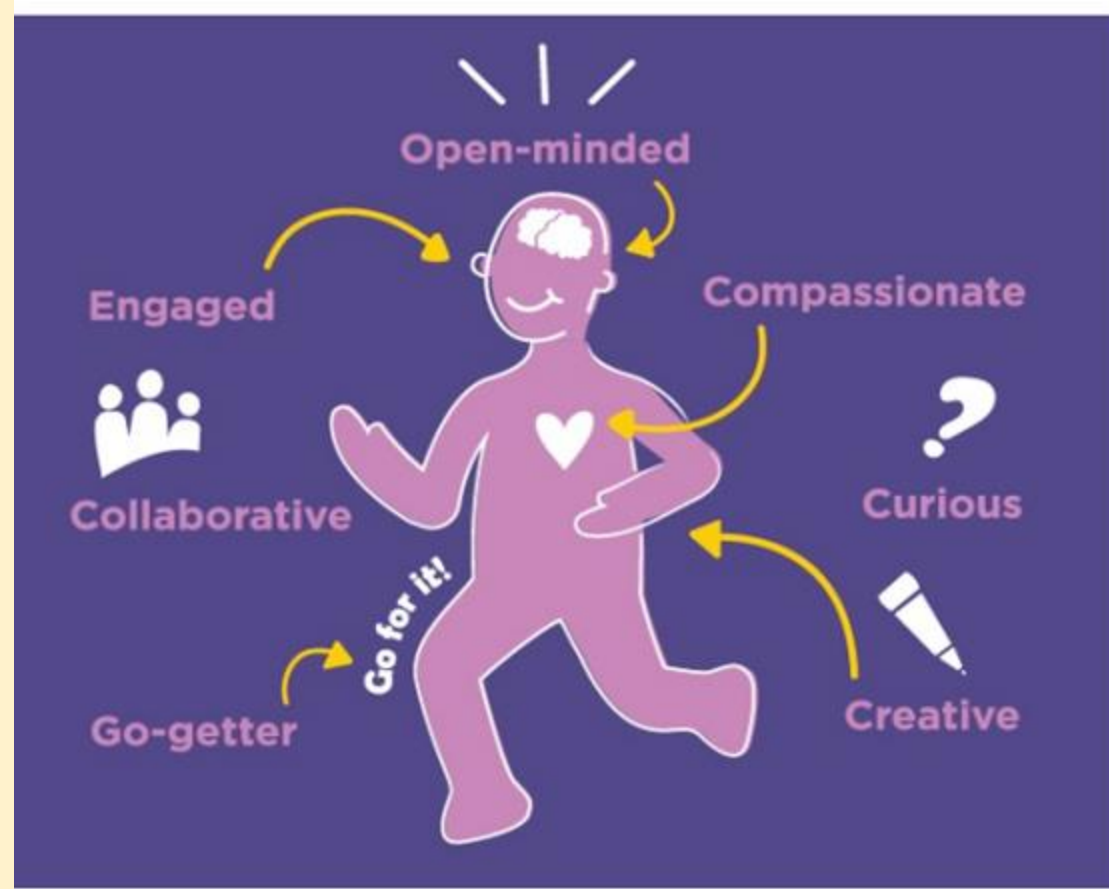
Future Science Leaders is an after-school program for high school students that teaches different STEM topics each week. Write me an answer to the question: "How would you benefit from the Future Science Leaders Program?"

The Future Science Leaders Program would provide me with a unique opportunity to expand my knowledge and skills in STEM fields that go beyond what I learn in the classroom. By engaging in weekly lessons on different topics, I would gain hands-on experience and a deeper understanding of the latest scientific advancements. Additionally, the program would allow me to collaborate with like-minded peers, fostering a sense of community and teamwork. This experience would not only boost my confidence in STEM but also help me make more informed decisions about my future career path. Moreover, the exposure to a variety of scientific disciplines would enhance my problem-solving and critical thinking abilities, preparing me for future academic challenges and opportunities in STEM.




ChatGPT and other AI

- Treat it like an experienced and helpful friend/ family member. Having it write content for you is cheating.
- Using it for brainstorming
- You must make it your own – GenAI is not unique!

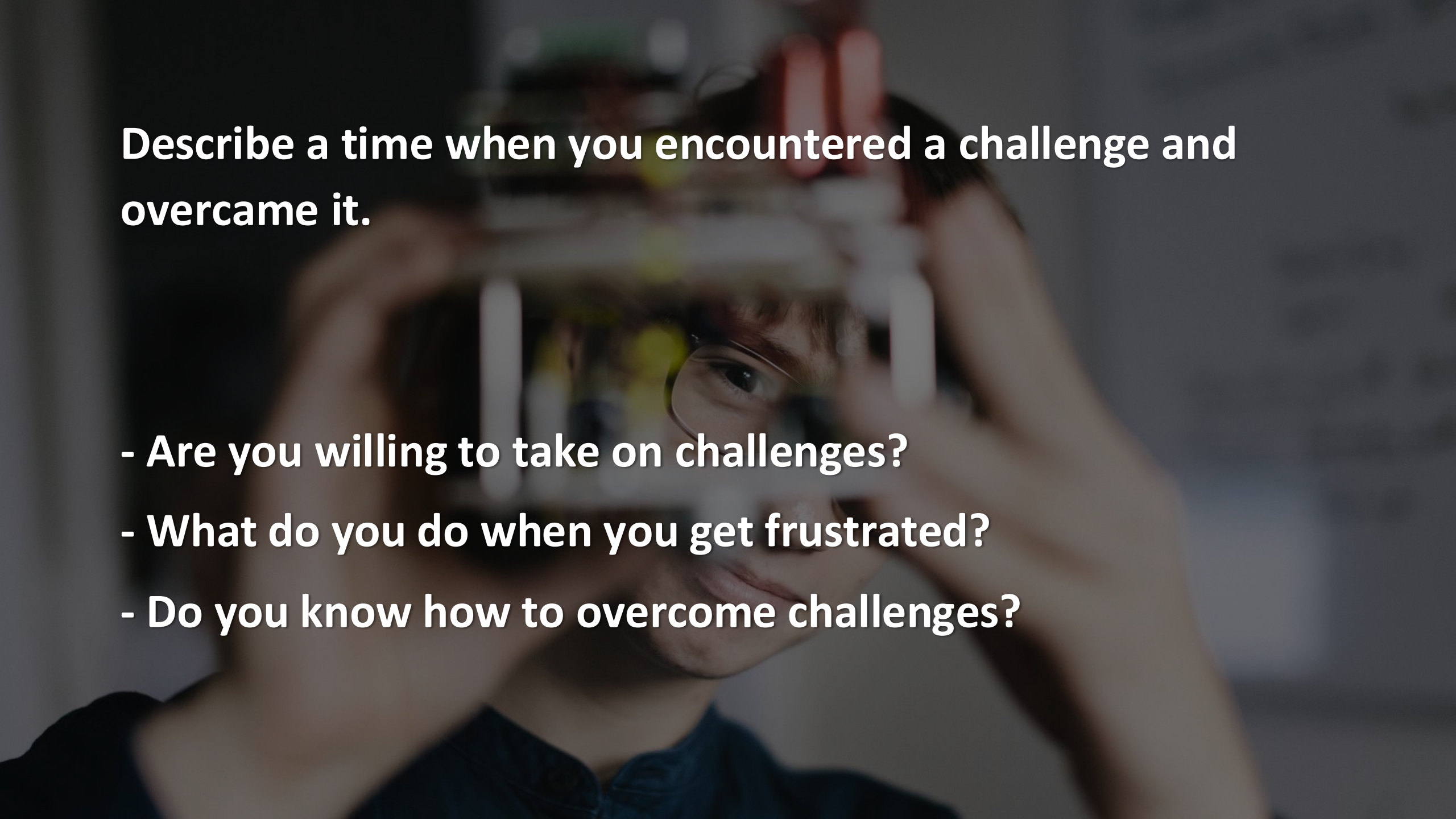


Sample Interview Questions

A person with glasses is holding a white plastic chair back in front of their face, completely obscuring it. The person is wearing a dark blue shirt. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.


**Describe a time when you encountered a challenge and
overcame it.**

Why do we ask this?

A young woman with glasses and her hands raised in a gesture of surprise or excitement. The background is dark and out of focus.

Describe a time when you encountered a challenge and overcame it.

- Are you willing to take on challenges?**
- What do you do when you get frustrated?**
- Do you know how to overcome challenges?**



I lacked some knowledge



I studied/worked hard



I gained that knowledge

I couldn't run 5km



I trained to run 5km



I ran 5 km

I lacked some knowledge



I studied/worked hard



I gained that knowledge

I couldn't run 5km



I trained to run 5km



I ran 5 km

I couldn't run 5km



I started with a basic training routine and joined a running group.



I ran 5 km and learned that the social aspect of running was really important for my success.

Demonstrating growth mindset

- What was the issue? (Situation)
- What are you going to do about it? (Action)
- How were you changed? (Reaction/Reflection)

I couldn't run 5km



I started with a basic training routine and joined a running group.



I ran 5 km and learned that the social aspect of running was really important for my success.

Demonstrating growth mindset

- What was the issue?
- What are you going to do about it?
- How were you changed?

I had difficulty learning French



I studied French a lot



I now speak French efficiently

I had difficulty learning French







Tell us about a time you had to support someone in a group project?

Why do you think we ask this?

The background is a vibrant, abstract illustration. It features three stylized human figures: one on the left in a dark blue shirt, one in the center in a light blue sweater, and one on the right in a patterned orange and brown top. They are surrounded by various geometric shapes like circles, triangles, and squares, some with patterns. A glowing lightbulb is positioned at the top center. The overall style is modern and creative, with a color palette dominated by blues, oranges, and greens.

Tell us about a time you had to support someone in a group project?

STAR Method

- Situation – What was the problem?
- Task – What needed to be done?
- Action – What did you do?
- Response – What happened as a result? (Conclusion)

Thank you to our donors

Future Science Leaders would not be possible without the generous support of:



Foundation



NumerixS Quant
ANALYTICAL EXCELLENCE

The Louis Family

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John & Dana Montalbano

Marion Mann & Scott Shaw

We also acknowledge the financial assistance of the Province of British Columbia.

Contacts

Questions or comments:

- Sean Lipsit, Program Manager
 - slipsit@scienceworld.ca

Websites:

- Read stories about alumni and find out more details:
 - scienceworld.ca/futurescienceleaders/
- Examples of student work:
 - futurescienceleaders.com



Thank you for attending! Questions?

Sean Lipsit

slipsit@scienceworld.ca

Important Dates:

Early Bird Deadline – March 30, 2025

Applications Deadline – April 30, 2025

Interview Offers – May 2025

Program Spot Offers – June 2025



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