



FEATURED CHEMIST:

Dr. Dianne Gates-Anderson

I recently got on a plane and flew to Livermore, California to meet Dr. Dianne Gates-Anderson. She is an Environmental Process Engineer at the Department of Energy, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL for short).

I met Dr. Gates-Anderson at the LLNL's West Gate Badge Office. Apparently there is top secret research taking place at this National Laboratory! Since I'm not old enough for a driver's license yet, I had to show them my ACS picture ID to get a guest badge.

While waiting for my badge, I asked Dr. Gates-Anderson, "Why did you become a scientist?" She told me that she was always

curious about how things worked and she would drive her mother crazy by asking millions of science questions.

When she was in school, she took all the science classes she could, because she learned that science had the answers to many of those questions!

Once I received my badge, Dr. Gates-Anderson started my tour. I was amazed about the size of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory! It was huge! Dr. Gates-Anderson told me that she was one of 8,000 people who work here. During the tour, she showed me many of the large pieces of laboratory equipment that they use for their research.



While touring the laboratory I asked Dr. Gates-Anderson, "What exactly does an Environmental Process Engineer do with all these cool machines?" She told me that at the national laboratory they worked on the really "BIG problems"! The LLNL's main goal is to keep America safe, but they also work to protect the environment, secure new energy sources, and even help fight diseases!

Dr. Gates-Anderson's job at the laboratory is to come up with ways to





get rid of wastes and pollution. She finds ways to clean up hazardous or even nuclear waste. Even though she might be studying dangerous waste, Dr. Gates-Anderson still loves her job. Because cleaning up dangerous pollution isn't easy, her job is never boring. Every problem is different, so Dr. Gates-Anderson is always using both her knowledge of chemistry and engineering to

come up with new and creative solutions. It is almost like she spends all day solving really interesting puzzles!

I really enjoyed seeing the LLNL and spending time with Dr. Gates-Anderson. She is a lot of fun and does a very important job. Before I left, I thanked her for helping to keep the country safe and free from dangerous waste. ♦

Personal Profile: Dr. Dianne-Gates Anderson

What is your favorite food?

Chocolate

And your favorite color?

Blue

Do you have a favorite movie?

Any musical

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Driving my Mini Cooper, hiking, reading, and cooking.

Could you share an accomplishment that makes you proud?

Getting a PhD from UC Berkeley while a single parent.

Were you part of any interesting projects?

I have a patent for a HEPA filter treatment process I developed.

What day is your birthday?

June 1st

Please tell us a little about your family.

I am married, have 2 adult children, 2 adult step-children. My daughter and stepson are ele

