

Spellbound Talks

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A selection of Spellbound speakers who offer talks as part of a regular lecture series For a full list and more ideas visit www.spellboundtalks.co.uk

From Prep School age through to Sixth Form ...

Speakers are able to tailor their talks to suit a range of different ages, from prep school age through to sixth form. A mountaineer might cover the ethics and the environmental consequences of climbing Everest to sixth form students, but get younger students to plan their own 'Everest' expedition, complete with real equipment and clothing!

Paul Deegan, Everest mountaineer, author and expeditioner, offers a variety of interactive presentations entitled 'Can you Climb Everest?' for younger students, and a more challenging and thought provoking talk aimed at sixth form level.

Peoples, Places and Cultures ...

Students learn about other cultures, through beautifully illustrated talks. Why for example, do caravans of up to fifty camels carrying huge slabs of Salt, arrive bellowing and snorting in Timbuktu at the end of a 450-mile trek? What is it actually like to live on 'Tristan da Cunha' - the world's most remote community?

Richard Grundy lived as a teacher on Tristan da Cunha in the South Atlantic Ocean. Hear entertaining stories of Richard's experiences whilst living with one of the planet's most remarkable groups of people, including Ratting Day, rescuing a pupil from an octopus, cooking tips for penguin eggs and gathering guano and sea-birds!

John Pilkington tells of life in Taoudenni, Mali's remotest and most primitive settlement. A posting from hell, but also the valuable source of Taoudenni salt, or the 'white gold' of the Sahara.

Vitally important historical events ...

Freddie Knoller is a holocaust survivor and begins his talk by simply stating 'this is my story'. Students feel humbled and privileged to be able to listen to a first hand account of his truly remarkable life

Geoff Somers tells the story of Captain Robert Falcon Scott – a courageous yet tragic figure from the 'heroic age of Antarctic exploration.' Based on his own experiences, he puts into perspective the huge undertakings of these early expeditions when Antarctica was virtually unknown and rarely visited. No telephones, radios, aeroplanes or any hope of rescue in those days, should things go wrong ...

A host of unusual careers ...

Talks touch on a variety of unusual and rewarding careers.

Dr Martha Holmes explains what it is like to be a Producer on a landmark BBC wildlife series, and describes the beautiful and harsh environments her job takes her to.

Commodore Ian Gibb, Captain of the 'Oriana' and responsible for nearly 2,000 cruise ship passengers describes what it is like to spend 43 years at sea ...

Chris Bradley tells how his love of travel and photography led him into a career as a tour leader specialising in the Middle East ...