

# Paul Nurse Quotes

*School, Effort, Important, World, Cells, Winter, Philosophy, Might, Children,  
Privilege, My Time, Long, Beautiful, Asking Questions, Age, Birmingham,  
Enough Time, Stars, Projects, Examination*

I was never very good at exams, having a poor memory and finding the examination process rather artificial, and there never seemed to be enough time to follow up things that really interested me.

~Paul Nurse

I was by far the youngest of the family, and at times it was like being an only child.

~Paul Nurse

I think it was this curiosity about the natural world which awoke my early interest in science.

~Paul Nurse

My parents were neither wealthy nor academic, but we lived comfortably and they were always extremely supportive of my academic efforts and aspirations, both at school and university.

~Paul Nurse

This possibility bothered me as I thought it was not advisable to remain in one academic environment, and the long dark winters in Edinburgh could be rather dismal.

~Paul Nurse

I am still a keen mountain walker and an enthusiastic glider pilot.

~Paul Nurse

During the winter my attention was attracted to the changes in the stars and planets in the sky.

~Paul Nurse

At age 11 in 1960, I moved to an academic state secondary school, Harrow County Grammar School for Boys.

~Paul Nurse

After an extensive interview he arranged for my weaknesses in foreign languages to be over-looked and so I started a Biology degree at Birmingham in 1967.

~Paul Nurse

Scientific understanding is often beautiful, a profoundly aesthetic experience which gives pleasure not unlike the reading of a great poem.

~Paul Nurse

My parents were born in Norfolk and spent their early years working in the big houses of that rural English county, my mother as a cook and my father as a handyman and chauffeur.

~Paul Nurse

This time at Birmingham turned me into a general biologist, and ever since then I have always tried to take a biological approach to any research project that I have undertaken.

~Paul Nurse

It was during my time at secondary school that I abandoned religion.

~Paul Nurse

Therefore, I reasoned that study of the cell cycle responsible for the reproduction of cells was important and might even be illuminating about the nature of life.

~Paul Nurse

I felt strongly that since the pursuit of good science was so difficult it was essential that the problem being studied was an important one to justify the effort expended.

~Paul Nurse

I have an idealistic view of science as a liberalising and progressive

force for humanity.

~Paul Nurse

It has been a privilege to pursue knowledge for its own sake and to see how it might help mankind in more practical ways.

~Paul Nurse

Better understanding of the natural world not only enhances all of us as human beings, but can also be harnessed for the better good, leading to improved health and quality of life.

~Paul Nurse

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