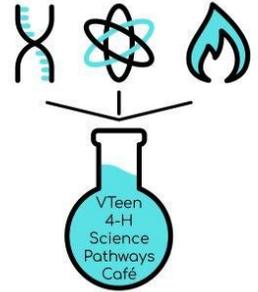




# VTeen Science Explorations



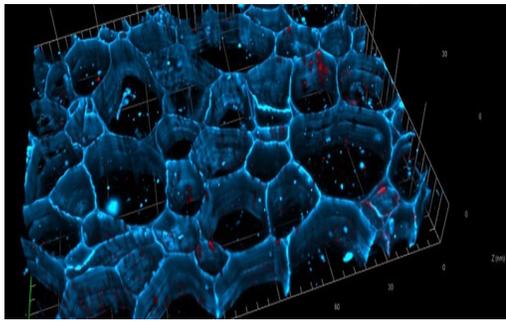
## How Do Plant Cells Talk to One Another to Make Decisions for Development and Defense Responses?

Wednesday, October 28, 2020, 3:30-4:45 pm

Open to all youth entering grades 7-12 in VT and across the country!

Register@ [www.uvm.edu/extension/youth/announcements](http://www.uvm.edu/extension/youth/announcements)

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How do plants transmit decisions taken at the cellular level to the whole organism? Which proteins and pathways act as gatekeepers in a plant's response to external factors? Although several recent researches have started to identify candidates responsible in these processes, we are yet to reach to a comprehensive answer to these questions. One of the approaches is to characterize what is going on at the cellular junctions – the plasmodesmata (PD). That is the primary goal of

Sury Jha's current research. She is investigating the role of a family of proteins that are found to localize in PD, and potentially involve in cell-to-cell communication during pathogen response. Come to this café to learn more about the importance of plant plasmodesmata in regulating intercellular communication and plant-environment interactions.

### ABOUT OUR SPEAKER

**Sury Ghosh Jha** is currently a postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Plant Biology at Carnegie Institution for Science, CA. She is a cell biologist, curious about understanding the cellular mechanisms that plants use to successfully interact with their environment. Sury received her PhD in Plant Biology from UVM in 2018.

**What is a Virtual Teen Science Café?** It is a free, fun way for teens to explore science, engineering and technology with local scientists, engineers and technology experts. Teens will “meet a scientist”, learn about their work, and be able to participate in informal discussions.

**Questions?** Contact [lauren.traister@uvm.edu](mailto:lauren.traister@uvm.edu)

*To request a disability-related accommodation to participate in this program, please contact the 4-H Office at 802-888-4972 or [lauren.traister@uvm.edu](mailto:lauren.traister@uvm.edu) by October 7, 2020 so we may assist you.*