



Nature School Teacher

Position Description

Job Description

Nature School Teachers are responsible for assisting with the organization and implementation of the River Parkway Trust's Nature School Enrichment program for pre-K through 3rd grade. There are two positions to be filled: preschool/Kindergarten teacher, and early elementary teacher. These positions will work directly with and be under supervision of the Young Explorers Enrichment Program (Nature School) Lead.

Time Commitment

Nature School Teachers will average 12-24 hours per week with the Nature School Enrichment Program (up to 4 days per week, depending on availability: Tu-Fri, 8am-1pm); please describe availability in your cover letter. Duration for these positions is late August 2024 - May of 2025 with the potential to stay on in the summer in a position with River Camp summer camp programs. Nature School Teachers will be the primary leads for groups of up to 12 youth, with hands-on support from the Young Explorers Enrichment Program Lead (supervisor) each day. Weekly hours will be dependent on enrollment numbers in the Nature School Enrichment Program. Nature School Teachers may also work with the Trust's River Field Trip program.

Responsibilities of Nature School Teachers

- Prepare and stage physical materials and activity supplies
- Facilitate educational activities for approximately 7-12 students with a child-centered, student-driven curriculum that includes play, sensory experiences, and hands on learning
- Support student connection to and exploration of the natural world
- Maintain program equipment and supplies, including:
 - Prepare activity specific materials as needed (sharpening pencils, creating and laminating trail guides, etc.)
 - Organize and maintain program storage areas
- Work collaboratively with supervisor to develop curriculum and increase program capacity
- Observe and document children's progress in the areas of their social, emotional, physical, creative, and cognitive skills
- Communicate effectively with parents regarding program activities and student engagement
- Other duties as assigned

Qualifications

- Enthusiasm and passion for working with young children
- Bachelor's degree in relevant field (education or environmental sciences) OR previous experience in education field, preferably working with outdoor and nature based programs
- Experience working with children ages 3 - 9 years old
- Comfortable sitting on the ground, getting dirty, handling insects, and other creatures

- Preferred: Naturalist skills and knowledge; Reggio Emilia Study Experience; knowledge of various pedagogy and trends in instruction and curriculum design for young learners; experience in storytelling; play a musical instrument and/or sing, bilingual Spanish, Hmong, or Vietnamese
- Ability to work outdoors in variable weather conditions and on uneven terrain, and be able to lift up to 40 lbs
- Valid driver's license and transportation
- CPR/First Aid Certification or the ability to obtain it upon job offer
- DMV Report, and Livescan fingerprinting required contingent upon job offer

Nature School Teacher positions begin at \$18.50/hr.

The Trust is committed to equal employment opportunity for all employees and to providing employees with a work environment free of discrimination and harassment. All employment decisions are based on business needs, job requirements and individual qualifications, without regard to race, color, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, veteran status, disability, or any other status protected by the laws or regulations of the United States. The Trust will not tolerate discrimination or harassment based on any of these characteristics. We encourage applicants of all ages.

To Apply

Please submit a completed [application](#), resume and a brief cover letter outlining your interest in this opportunity to awagner@riverparkway.org with the subject line "Nature School Teacher" Application materials can be found at <http://riverparkway.org/what-we-do/work-with-us/>.