



Seasonal Environmental Educator, After School Program (Part-time)

The Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education, a leading environmental education provider for the Philadelphia region, seeks a passionate and energetic naturalist/educator to engage students and the public in meaningful and innovative learning experiences in nature. Position reports to the Manager of School Programs.

Position Summary

The Seasonal Environmental Educator primarily serves in our after school program, providing supervision and support for children, and engaging children ages 5-12 years old in nature-based play at the Center. The Seasonal Environmental Educator may also staff other programs and special events as needed. The core schedule for this position is Monday – Friday, 2:00 – 6:00 pm.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Interact with children outdoors for extended periods of time.
- Supervise children at all times. Be aware of a small group of children while working with a larger group, maintaining proper ratios at all times.
- Provide mentorship and guidance to children, supporting their social-emotional, physical, and intellectual development, healthy risk assessment, and community building.
- Respect and observe children's interests. Intervene when needed to maintain safety.
- Interact with children frequently, affectionately and respectfully.
- Planning and implementing games and activities to encourage outdoor play
- Acknowledge feelings with sensitivity, and model appropriate social behavior.
- Work together with other educators to figure out creative solutions to behavioral challenges
- Support the Schuylkill Center's mission, philosophies, values, goals and policies to parents, co-workers and community.
- Assist with other projects in the education department as requested.

Expected Competencies

- A background in early childhood education, elementary education, social work or related areas is preferred.
- Desire and ability to engage youth in learning experiences using developmentally-appropriate pedagogy and group management techniques
- An understanding of childhood development, the different stages of growth, and an awareness of young children's needs
- Desire and ability to employ redirection and positive behavior modification strategies when confronted with challenging behaviors among children we serve
- Interest in the natural sciences, local flora and fauna, and outdoor-based education.
- Adapt and be flexible with quickly changing environments

- Team-oriented with strong interpersonal skills; work collaboratively with fellow staff and ability to communicate in a timely and respectful manner

Physical Demands/Work Environment

The physical demands and work environment characteristics described are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

During most of the year, the Seasonal Environmental Educator spends the better part of their day outdoors. The employee must be able to:

- Spend multiple hours outdoors in all weather (heat, cold, rain, snow)
- Hike 2 or more miles a day on rough terrain, keeping pace with the children in their care
- Engage in sustained physical activity throughout the day
- Lift up to 50 pounds (size of a small child)
- Hear children that might be out of direct sight-line
- Have 20:20 vision (with corrective lenses) to provide oversight during outdoor play

Background Clearances: If hired, employees are responsible for providing a valid Pennsylvania child abuse clearance, state criminal background check, FBI criminal background check, Mandated Reporter training, and other background checks that the Schuylkill Center requires based on the applicant's state residency. First Aid/CPR training will be provided to applicants who don't currently have it. **Additionally, as of September 2021, all hires are required to provide proof of vaccination.**

Compensation

This position has a starting rate of \$15/hr.

To Apply

Please send both a resume and cover letter to Margaret Clarkson, Manager of School Programs, at margaret@schuylkillcenter.org. Apply by Friday, August 18, 2023.

The Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education is dedicated to being an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, genetics, disability, age, veteran status, or any other basis prohibited by law and our core values.