

JOB DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Per-diem Weekend Naturalist and Environmental Educator

Supervisor: Director of the Nature Center and Aquarium and Senior Director of Education
Location: Audubon Society of Rhode Island (ASRI) Nature Center and Aquarium, Bristol, Rhode Island
FLSA Status: Non-exempt, per diem, no benefits
Date Prepared: June 2022

Summary of Position:

The Weekend Naturalist works Saturdays and occasional Sundays at Audubon's Nature Center and Aquarium in Bristol, Rhode Island. The Naturalist is responsible for teaching birthday parties and public programs, leading guided tours/nature walks, offering interpretation of indoor exhibit and feeding animals. This position also assists in the admissions and gift shop area, special events and facility rentals. This position is supervised by the Director of the Nature Center and Aquarium and works closely with other staff, volunteers and interns.

The Weekend Naturalist is encouraged to supplement their hours by working as an educator within Audubon's Education Department during the week. Educators teach a wide-variety of programs in schools, libraries, community settings and at Audubon wildlife refuges. Training is provided.

As a member of the ASRI staff the person in this position is an ambassador for the Society, fostering a commitment to Audubon's mission, values and culture of philanthropy.

Weekend Naturalist Duties:

1. Teach nature birthday party programs and public programs.
2. Work with animals used in education programs as necessary (raptors, reptiles, amphibians & arthropods).
3. Prepare animal diet and feed animals as needed.
4. Lead guided tours and nature walks, as well as offer interpretation of indoor exhibits.
5. Maintain education props, specimens, and resource materials as needed.
6. Assist with covering the front admissions and gift shop area, as needed.
7. Help with special events and facility rentals.

8. Answer questions regarding natural history and environmental topics as needed. Remain informed about current natural history and environmental issues.
9. Miscellaneous other duties and responsibilities as assigned by supervisor.

Weekend Naturalist & Educator page 2

Environmental Educator Duties:

1. Teach programs on natural history and environmental topics in a wide variety of settings, such as classrooms, Audubon wildlife refuges, after school and summer settings and libraries.
2. Work with animals used in education programs as necessary (raptors, reptiles, amphibians & arthropods).
3. Serve as a liaison between the education community and the Audubon Society.
4. Remain informed about current natural history and environmental issues.
5. Keep program props, specimens and resource materials in good shape.
6. Miscellaneous other duties and responsibilities as assigned.

Knowledge/Skills:

- Requires a Bachelor's degree in one of the natural sciences or education.
- Experienced teaching children, as well as adults.
- Successful practice with program development and curriculum.
- Experience working with animals a plus.
- Able and willing to work outdoors.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Able and willing to work in a team environment, as well as independently.
- Candidates should have reliable transportation and a valid driver's license.
- Hold or be able to acquire First Aid and CPR certification.
- Must undergo and pass a background check upon hire.

Discretion/Latitude/Decision Making:

- Duties are performed under general supervision and established guidelines.
- Must maintain decorum and judgement as legally required to work with children.
- Demonstrates common sense, flexibility, and teamwork.
- Refers difficult questions or unusual problems to supervisor.

Communications/Interpersonal Contacts:

- Communicates with a diverse group of people, including students, parents, board of directors, donors, volunteers, education partners, the public and other staff.
- Consistently demonstrates professional, positive, and approachable attitude/demeanor and discretion.

Working Conditions/Physical Effort:

- Work environment requires ability and willingness to work outdoors; may involve exposure to disagreeable elements.
- Must be physically capable of walking several miles and able to lift up to 35 pounds.
- Requires availability on weekends.

Contact:

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