



Inspiring, empowering, and transforming children's lives through outdoor education

Exploring New Horizons Outdoor Schools
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POSITION: Naturalist

LOCATION: Exploring New Horizons at Santa Cruz or Loma Mar

SALARY: \$20/hour

SUPERVISOR: Program Director

HOURS: Unknown as we are currently creating 2 to 5-day schedules with parents (5-7 hours/day)

WHAT IS EXPLORING NEW HORIZONS?

Exploring New Horizons Outdoor Schools (ENH) empowers students, builds environmental literacy, and strengthens communities through environmental education programs. Founded as a non-profit in 1979, ENH partners with over 80 Northern California schools. Traditionally, ENH runs residential environmental education programs at our Loma Mar and Pigeon Point sites near Pescadero, CA. However, this year, due to the COVID-19 crisis, ENH is running day programs in both Loma Mar and Santa Cruz, CA. The Loma Mar program will take place at the YMCA Camp Loma Mar where we usually run a residential program. The Santa Cruz program will take place at various local open space locations (Natural Bridges, Seabright Beach, Wilder Ranch, etc).

POSITION OVERVIEW:

The most important aspect of this program model is staff and participant safety. People being safe and feeling safe is the priority and ENH has put in place a Health & Safety Plan to mitigate risk that will be shared with all applicants. Naturalists will work with stable groups of up to 8 students throughout the fall from late August up until Thanksgiving Break. We will then resume in mid-January, hopefully with the same groups. Naturalists will engage stable groups of up to 8 K-5 children in an outdoor curriculum focused on environmental stewardship, social emotional learning, ecology, and the arts. Children will engage in:

- Guided nature exploration, hiking, and observation
- Nature writing, drawing, mapping, and data collection
- Art, music, and imaginary play
- Any non-screen school work parents choose to send with students

Students and staff will wear face coverings throughout the day with breaks for lunch and when engaged in solo activities. ENH will conduct a staff training during the month of August to train staff on our health and safety policies and further prepare staff for this position. As a Naturalist at ENH you will build your knowledge of the coast's diverse ecosystems and how to teach students about them in an accessible and engaging way.

A housing rental option is available at our Loma Mar site for \$450/room in single and double-wide trailers.

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES:

Day hikes:

- Conduct lessons for 2 to 5-day stable groups of K-5 children
- Develop lessons that incorporate fun, engaging, and socially distanced activities demonstrating basic ecological concepts, group and self-esteem building and development of citizenship skills. Strategies include hands-on explorations, dramatics, nature games, art, music, and creative writing.
- Monitor the implementation of ENH risk management and health and safety procedures in the field setting.
- Support the development of positive group learning and team environment. Introduce team building opportunities to encourage positive communication, leadership and individual development.

Miscellaneous Duties:

- Check in: Staff will help with the check in process when parents drop off and pick up their children, including temperature checks, surveying children for other COVID symptoms, and answering parents' questions.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

- Prior experience working with school aged students in an outdoor environment
- A Bachelor's degree, preferably in Education, Environmental Science, Biology or equivalent experience
- Able to work a flexible schedule
- Ability to move through a variety of terrains, including flat, rocky and mountainous terrain
- Capability to work in a variety of temperature and weather conditions
- Ability to see and respond to written, auditory and verbal instruction
- Practice non-violent communication skills (positive tone, kind and professional attitude)
- Possess a valid driver's license and clean driving record
- All staff must possess a current Standard First Aid and CPR certificate prior to employment
- Wilderness First Responder or WFR is encouraged
- All Naturalist must be TB tested before employment

We encourage applicants of different backgrounds, cultures, genders, experiences, abilities and perspectives to apply as we are actively working to increase the diversity of experience and perspectives on our team. ENH is aware that no one comes with the entire complement of skills, so please don't let a lack of experience/skill in one specific area deter you from applying.

To apply: Send cover letter and resume to: jacob@exploringnewhorizons.org

For more information please visit our website: exploringnewhorizons.org (a popup is on our home page describing our new day programs)

Exploring New Horizons Outdoor Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, disability or age in any of its policies, procedures or practices.