

Job Title: FOUR WINDS NATURALIST-EDUCATOR

Position: Part-time Professional

Description: Four Winds Naturalist-Educators present high-quality, engaging place-based natural science lessons for adult volunteers that prepare them for working with elementary school children. This role is ideal for someone who has a strong background in environmental science, is experienced in teaching outdoors, and possesses excellent leadership and communication skills.

Our educators are the public face of Four Winds in our communities, working to advance the understanding, appreciation, and protection of the environment through community-based natural science education and research.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Present high-quality educational workshops to adults on a variety of natural science topics;
- Be knowledgeable about each of the monthly natural science topics and review all learning activities and teaching materials ahead of time;
- Implement best practices in teaching inquiry-based science to adults and children of all ages;
- Be familiar with Nearby Nature, the Next Generation Science and Common Core standards;
- Identify and share strategies for adapting learning activities for different grade levels and abilities;
- Model practices that use the outdoors as a teaching resource and foster the social, emotional, cognitive, and health benefits of nature-based play and learning;
- Support program coordinators and volunteers in providing a solid, vibrant natural science program to the children in the schools;
- Work collaboratively with other Four Winds staff to develop new lessons and new programs, as appropriate;
- Prepare all workshop teaching materials (other than materials-to-be-loaned);
- Drive to all regions of Vermont and neighboring states to present educational programs, as assigned;
- Participate actively in Four Winds staff meetings and professional development opportunities;
- Schedule workshops, submit payment forms, collect loaned materials, and handle other administrative details associated with the position.

Qualifications:

- B.S. or B.A. in Environmental Education, Science, Education, or related field (Master's preferred);
- Extensive place-based natural science teaching experience, working with preK-6 students, adult volunteers, educators, and community organizations;
- Excellent public speaking and presentation skills, comfortable with audiences of all sizes;
- Solid research and writing skills and experience;
- Ability to teach (and learn!) outdoors for extended periods of time through the seasons;
- Strong administrative, computer, and organizational skills;
- Possess a valid driver's license and reliable transportation;
- Background check required:
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team;
- Ability to lift up to 40 pounds and lead moderate to strenuous field explorations;

Compensation: This is a part-time professional staff position. Current hourly pay rate is \$25/hour. Work-related travel is reimbursed at the IRS-approved mileage rate. Includes various other benefits including paid time off.

To Apply: Email cover letter and resume to <u>lisa@fwni.org</u>
Lisa Purcell, Executive Director, Four Winds Nature Institute, https://fwni.org/