



Job Title: FOUR WINDS NATURALIST-EDUCATOR

Reports to: Four Winds Director

Position: Part-time Professional

To Apply: Email a cover letter and resume to:

Lisa Purcell, Director

Four Winds Nature Institute

lisa@fourwindsinstitute.org

Description: Four Winds Naturalist-Educators present high-quality, engaging place-based natural science lessons for volunteers that prepare them for working with elementary school children. 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.*

Nature Program Trainer Responsibilities:

- Present high-quality educational workshops to adults on a variety of natural science topics;
- Be knowledgeable about each of the monthly topics and review all activities and materials ahead of time;
- Be familiar with the Next Generation Science and Common Core standards as well as best practices in teaching adults as well as children of all ages;
- 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;
- Prepare all workshop teaching materials (other than slides and other materials-to-be-loaned);
- Work with other Four Winds staff to develop new lessons and new programs, as appropriate;
- 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;
- Support program coordinators and volunteers in providing a solid, vibrant natural science program to the children in the schools;
- Schedule workshops, submit payment forms, collect loaned materials, and handle other administrative details associated with the position.

Other Responsibilities, as assigned, may include:

- Co-facilitate early childhood education professional learning communities (15 contact hours/PLC) focused on nature-based play and learning;
- Co-lead parent/family nature-based play and learning multi-session discussion/play groups;
- Other mission-focused projects and programs of interest to staff.

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-8 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 and organizational skills;
- Home office, computer, internet access AND fluent in Microsoft Office suite and Google products;
- Possess a valid driver's license and reliable transportation;
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team – we meet as a full staff 4-6 times/year;
- Ability to lift up to 40 pounds and lead moderate to strenuous field explorations;
- Positive and enthusiastic work ethic!

Compensation: This is a part-time professional staff position. In 2022, the hourly pay rate is \$22.75/hour. Work-related travel is reimbursed at the IRS-approved mileage reimbursement rate. Staff accrue paid time off, prorated according to hours worked and years of service. Various other benefits available.