Position Title: Assistant Teacher

Neighbors and Nature Afterschool Program

Established in 1946, the Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center, is a combination wildlife sanctuary, environmental education center and community resource. Neighbors and Nature Afterschool Program is an OEC Licensed program that provides students from Deans Mill School before and after school care. Neighbors and Nature cultivates a connection with the outdoors through outdoor play, games, animal encounters, hiking and environment science activities.

Position Summary

Under the supervision of the Afterschool Program Director

Assistant Teacher is an essential part of the school aged afterschool program. Working with the head teacher, they help to create fun and engaging outdoor and nature based after-school activities to support the goals of the Neighbors and Nature Afterschool program, seasonal program themes and promote the DPNC’s mission.

Working hours 15-20 hours per week Typically: Monday-Friday, available hours 7-9 am and 3:30-6 pm. (hours will vary for early dismissal days) During summer the hours would increase to 40/week. Hours are negotiable.

Job responsibilities include:

- Assist the head teacher in providing before and after care, executing Nature-based curriculum and outdoor play.
- Create a fun, engaging, safe, and healthy learning environment for children in the Neighbors and Nature After School Program; recognize & appropriately respond to all hazards & emergencies.
- Maintain CT state standards for childhood care centers, assisting with program participant forms & other paperwork, as needed.
- Work with Assistant Teachers and DPNC Educators to provide high quality nature-based education experiences to all Neighbors and Nature Students.
- Mentor assistant teachers to help provide high quality educational experience to our students.
- Design, plan, and teach a nature based outdoor play afterschool program that utilizes the play areas and trails of the Coogan Farm and Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center.
- Encourage the personal and social development of children.
- Maintain accurate attendance sign in sheets, snack menu and daily schedule.
- Cultivate relationships with After School Program participant families
- Participate and contribute in All Staff meetings.
- Maintain a relationship with our partner organization Precious Memories Place.
- Additional tasks as assigned by Afterschool Program Director, Head Teacher and or Education Director.
Minimum Skill and Ability Requirements:

- Have at least 1 year prior experience in education, environmental education, formal and/or informal teaching, camps or similar experience working with children in a responsible and professional setting.
- Ability to cope the seasons and maintain a positive attitude while working outside in all weather.
- Experience with kids ages 5 to 11, leading games, crafts and activities.
- Ability to coordinate, organize/maintain records, and be proactive with all position duties.
- Participate in activities with children to lead by example.
- Professional communication skills with visitors, volunteers, and the general public.
- Possess the physical ability to work actively throughout the property in a variety of weather conditions.
- Hold and maintain throughout the duration of the After School Program valid certification in the following: First Aid/CPR and Epi-pen/Medical Administration. If not current, must be willing to obtain valid certification prior to the start of employment.
- Must be at least 21 years old.
- Must provide proof of a Covid-19 vaccination.

Pay/Compensation

Hourly pay is $15/hour.

To apply

Please send cover letter and resume to:
Rob Reas, Afterschool Program Director, rreas@dpnc.org
Kim Hargrave, Education Director, khargrave@dpnc.org