



Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center

Mission: to inspire and nurture appreciation and scientific understanding of the natural world and foster a personal environmental ethic.

Position Title: Lead Summer Educator

Coogan Farm/Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center

Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center (DPNC) is a non-profit nature center in Mystic, CT that provides environmental education programs for all ages. Coogan Farm is home to DPNC's Neighbors & Nature nature-based child care program. Learn more about the mission and programs of DPNC at dpnc.org.

DPNC is seeking a lead educator to conduct nature-based child care and education for elementary-age students. Operating hours at Neighbors & Nature are weekdays from 7am to 6pm at Coogan Farm in Mystic. Summer shifts are generally 8/8:30am to 4/4:30pm, mid June through August. This is a full-time position, 40 hours per week and is a seasonal position.

Tasks include:

- Leading our school-age children through daily schedule
- Planning and preparing age-appropriate activities for students
- Spending time outdoors in a variety of habitats and weather conditions
- Leading hikes and nature exploration around Nature Center trails.
- Engaging professionally with parents at pick up and drop off times.
- Handling DPNC resident education animals (may include snakes, turtles and frogs)
- Completing cleaning duties to maintain a presentable environment
- Assist with meal time and ensure children are practicing best possible hygiene
- Maintain accurate records of campers' attendance and incidents
- Support children in their personal and social development
- Various other duties as assigned by the Education Director and Afterschool Program Director

Qualifications:

- High school diploma
- At least 18 years old
- Prior experience in classrooms or with groups of children is required
- Willingness to work with live animals
- Enthusiasm for interacting with children and teaching them about the natural world
- Comfortable managing small and large groups, both in a classroom setting and outside
- Proficient knowledge of the area's natural history
- Willingness to work professionally alongside various co-leaders
- Ability to handle challenging situations with patience and professionalism
- A valid driver's license