

Environmental Education Instructor / Naturalist



Location: University of Washington Botanic Gardens – Seattle, WA

University of Washington Botanic Gardens Education Program Mission: Provide meaningful educational experiences that enrich participants' connections with plants and the natural world.

Diversity Statement: The University of Washington Botanic Gardens strives to embody the University of Washington's diversity statement in everything that we do. We believe diversity is integral to excellence. We value and honor diverse experiences and perspectives, strive to create welcoming and respectful learning environments, and promote access, opportunity, and justice for all.

Program Overview: The University of Washington (UW) is proud to be one of the nation's premier educational and research institutions. Our people are the most important asset in our pursuit of achieving excellence in education, research, and community service. Our staff not only enjoys professional growth opportunities, but also an environment noted for diversity, community involvement, intellectual excitement, artistic pursuits, and natural beauty.

The University of Washington Botanic Gardens (UWBG) is a leading center of botanical research, education, and outreach. With more than 320 acres of gardens and natural areas in the heart of Seattle, the UW Botanic Gardens is home to internationally significant plant collections, award-winning restoration ecology and conservation programs, and popular public programs serving youth, families, adults, and professionals. UWBG has two sites: the Washington Park Arboretum and the Center for Urban Horticulture.

Description: Serve as a member of the UW Botanic Gardens youth and family education team. Assist with development and facilitation of a wide range of interpretive programs for the UW Botanic Gardens at the Washington Park Arboretum and the Center for Urban Horticulture. Deliver programming that enriches participant's connections to plants and the natural world. Perform a variety of program related functions including: copying, laminating, organizing program equipment and supplies, and other related duties as assigned.

Flexible work hours will include occasional evenings and weekends. Hours vary by season. During the spring, fall, and winter Environmental Education Instructors/Naturalists will work 0-25 hours per week (dependent on program availability) with more frequent work between March and June. Work in the summer months is 40 hours per week through our Arboretum Summer Camp when camp is in session.

Essential Tasks:

- Teach environmental education programs to preschool through 8th grade students including school field trips, summer camp, outreach events, and night hikes
- Serve as an on-call substitute for Family Nature Classes, public weekend walks, and the Fiddleheads Forest School
- Participate fully in staff meetings and professional development opportunities—including workshops, readings, and other exercises
- Ensure safety and well-being of program participants
- Conduct interpretive programs outdoors and in all kinds of weather
- Assist with curriculum development and the training of volunteers and other staff as needed
- Organize and maintain program supplies and equipment
- Perform a variety of clerical tasks such as filing, copying, and mailing services
- Perform related duties as required

Required Qualifications:

Revised 11/20/18

- High school graduation or equivalent
- Two years of experience leading outdoor education programs for diverse audiences
- Commitment to personal and professional growth in such areas as race and social equity, natural sciences, and environmental education best practices
- Excellent organizational skills and oral/written communication skills
- Willingness and ability to work outdoors in all types of weather
- Ability to work well on a team
- Ability to graciously receive feedback and integrate new ideas and knowledge
- Dedication to the mission of University of Washington Botanic Gardens Education Program
- Previous experience teaching and/or working with children
- CPR and First Aid certification or willingness to obtain by March 11th, 2019
- Must pass a criminal background check

Equivalent education/experience (personal and professional) may substitute for all required qualifications except when there are legal requirements, such as a license, certification, and/or registration.

Desirable Qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree or training in environmental education, botany, horticulture, biology, or related areas
- Experience working with pre-k-8th grade students in classroom, outdoor education, or day camp settings
- A knowledge of nature-based activities, lessons, games, projects and stories to bring to the position
- Computer proficiency with variety of software programs such as Microsoft Office, desktop publishing, and electronic communications.

Salary: \$16.00/hour

Application:

Please email a cover letter and resume to Kim Daniel at kwdaniel@uw.edu by Monday, January 7th, 2019.

Department Contact for Questions regarding this position:

Kim Daniel; Youth and Family Program Supervisor kwdaniel@uw.edu or 206-616-3381.

Timeline:

Spring orientation training takes place March 4th-8th, 2019.