

Teacher Naturalist

New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill, PO Box 598, Boylston, MA 01505 | 508-869-6111

Direct Manager:	Manager of Youth Education		
Department/Group:	Education	Job Category:	Hourly Per diem Non-exempt
Location:	Boylston, MA	Travel Required:	No
Rate:	\$18.30/hourly	Apply:	https://bit.ly/nebg-jobs

Position Overview

Teacher Naturalists are part of a dynamic, creative youth education team that are responsible for leading and engaging children in inquiry-based outdoor exploration using hands-on activities, songs, games, stories, art projects, and science investigations. Under the direction of the Manager of Youth Education, Teacher Naturalists assist in the delivery of a variety of mission-related learning experiences for families and children in grades PreK through 12. Programs may include school field trips, youth group programs, scout programs, and birthday parties.

Responsibilities

- Learn and deliver a set curriculum of inquiry-based lessons and activities focused on plants, botany, gardening, and ecology.
- Lead field trips, scout programs, birthday parties, and youth group workshops for children in grades PreK-12.
- Adhere to curriculum standards and guidelines that meet state education scout badge requirements.
- Adjust teaching styles and content delivery methods to present information at the appropriate age and grade level.
- Monitor groups in all types of indoor and outdoor environments and be mindful of the safety and welfare of all participants, fellow staff, and visitors.
- Set up and break down daily program materials and supplies.
- Maintain a positive attitude and create a positive, safe, and fun learning environment.
- Attend seasonal staff trainings and meetings.
- Work collaboratively with fellow Teacher Naturalists, members of the Education team, and other NEBG departments.
- Be welcoming to all staff and the public and respectful of staff differences and preferences.
- Use gender-neutral communication styles and respect everyone's pronouns.
- Attend Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility (IDEA) workshops and training sessions.
- Work with an awareness of surroundings and be vigilant to any possible threat to the safety of staff and the public, or NEBG. Ensure all concerns are reported promptly.
- Comply with the provisions of the current Employee Handbook, all published personnel policies and the requirements of the job description.
- Other duties as assigned.

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Schedule

Teacher Naturalists are per diem employees who self-schedule for available shifts. The position is considered seasonal where available work shifts are more frequent at certain points during the calendar year. Fall field trip seasons run from late September to mid-November and spring field trip season runs from April to mid-June. Birthday parties and other youth and family programs run year-round. This position requires availability during the week between the hours of 9am and 2pm and/or during weekend days. This position works primarily outdoors in all weather conditions with occasional work indoors in a classroom setting.

Physical Demands / Working Conditions:

- Must be able to lift 25 pounds and work outdoors in all seasonal extremes.
- Must be able to bend, kneel, stand, and walk for 90-minutes at a time and to navigate uneven grounds and stairs evenly.
- Must be able to work with appropriate computer and communications equipment.

Note: Duties described above, other duties, and physical demands have been identified as essential functions as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Qualifications

- High school diploma or equivalent.
- Minimum of one year of experience teaching children in a formal or informal setting.
- Experience working with one or more of the following: preschool, elementary, middle, or high school students, scout groups, youth groups, or families.
- CPR and First-Aid Certification; NEBG will provide access to training if needed.
- Experience teaching in an outdoor or camp setting is a plus.
- Experience learning and delivering a provided curriculum.
- Basic classroom management skills and the ability to present information at the appropriate age and grade level.
- Experience engaging and educating diverse learners in grades PreK-12 a plus.
- Enthusiasm for working with young audiences and leading programs focused on environmental science topics.
- Adaptable and flexible; can shift gears comfortably and embrace change.
- Ability to use clear, effective written and spoken communication.