

Nature Educator

Location: Dallas, TX

Pay: \$15-\$25

Reports to: Director of Education

Job Summary

The Nature Educator is responsible for leading engaging, hands-on environmental education experiences for children, families, school groups, and the general public. This position teaches programs that connect people to nature through interactive lessons, outdoor exploration, live animal experiences, crafts, games, and STEM-based activities. The Nature Educator helps create a welcoming, educational, and memorable experience for all guests while supporting the mission of Texas Discovery Gardens.

This role includes teaching field trips, homeschool days, camps, outreach programs, public classes, and special events. The ideal candidate is energetic, organized, flexible, and comfortable working both indoors and outdoors with a variety of age groups.

Essential Job Functions

- Lead educational programs for children, families, school groups, and community visitors
- Teach hands-on lessons about nature, gardens, insects, reptiles, conservation, and related science topics
- Facilitate camps, field trips, homeschool programs, public classes, and outreach activities
- Create a positive, welcoming, and engaging environment for guests of all ages
- Assist with preparing lesson materials, supplies, visuals, and activity stations
- Support animal-based programming when applicable, including safe handling of approved ambassador animals
- Help with setup, cleanup, and organization of classrooms, teaching supplies, and program spaces
- Adapt lessons and teaching style based on age group, learning needs, weather, and group size
- Supervise children and help maintain a safe, respectful learning environment

- Assist with special events, seasonal programming, and interactive educational stations
- Support general education department needs, including prep work, inventory, and program organization
- Represent Texas Discovery Gardens in a professional and enthusiastic manner
- Perform additional duties as assigned

Required Education, Experience, Skills, and Competencies

- Experience teaching, leading, or facilitating programs for children or the public
- Interest in environmental education, biology, ecology, entomology, horticulture, or related fields
- Strong communication and public speaking skills
- Ability to engage groups in a fun, clear, and age-appropriate way
- Comfortable working with children of various ages and backgrounds
- Ability to work both independently and as part of a team
- Strong organizational skills and attention to detail
- Flexible, dependable, and able to adapt to changing schedules or program needs
- Comfortable working outdoors in varying weather conditions
- Experience with crafts, activities, classroom management, or informal education is preferred
- Experience with live animals, gardens, museums, camps, or nature centers is a plus
- CPR/First Aid certification is a plus or willingness to obtain
- Valid driver's license preferred

Physical Requirements

The physical demands described here are representative of those an employee must meet to successfully perform the essential functions of this job.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to talk, hear, walk, stand, bend, reach, and move throughout indoor and outdoor spaces. The employee may frequently:

- Lift and carry up to 25–40 pounds
- Work outdoors in heat, cold, or uneven terrain

- Set up and move program materials, tables, bins, or supplies
- Participate actively in games, demonstrations, and hands-on activities

Schedule Expectations

This position may require a flexible schedule based on programming needs, including weekdays, weekends, occasional evenings, and seasonal camp schedules.

Other Duties

The statements above are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by individuals assigned to this position. They are not intended to be an exhaustive list of all duties, responsibilities, and skills required.