



Inspiring, empowering, and transforming children's lives through outdoor education

Exploring New Horizons Outdoor Schools at Sempervirens
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POSITION: Naturalist
LOCATION: Exploring New Horizons at Sempervirens in Boulder Creek, CA.
STATUS: \$70-75 per day with extra pay for additional duties, and depending on experience and qualifications.
SUPERVISOR: Program Director
BENEFITS: Healthcare stipend, room and board through work year
HOURS: Full Time during program weeks (September - June)

WHAT IS EXPLORING NEW HORIZONS?

Exploring New Horizons Outdoor Schools at Sempervirens in Boulder Creek is one of three Outdoor education programs run by Exploring New Horizons (ENH). ENH provides exceptional outdoor residential education to K-8 students at three unique locations through a rich and relevant curriculum tied to state and national education standards. Serving over 8,000 students from 95 schools annually from the SF Bay area and the Central Coast, ENH offers customized programs at our three campuses: Pigeon Point, Loma Mar and Sempervirens. The Sempervirens program consists of 4 and 5 day programs for 5th and 6th grade students.

POSITION OVERVIEW:

ENH is committed to educating and empowering children to make thoughtful, conscious, and sustainable choices for themselves and the environment. By providing children rich educational opportunities to safely explore the natural, un-plugged world, our naturalists foster a sense of adventure and love of learning while encouraging children to creatively envision and work together towards a positive future. Naturalists work with the same small group of 15–22 students throughout each week to engage children with an exceptional outdoor curriculum and intentional team-building exercises. Naturalists are responsible for the development of trail activities and curriculum, assisting with evening programs and program implementation. The skilled naturalist is the first in line to monitor the health and safety of students within the program.

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES:

Teaching Groups:

- Conduct daily discovery walks with the students. The Intro Hike is 2 hours and is focused upon introducing students to basic information and procedures. On subsequent days, the day hikes are 5 hours in length, and focus upon hands-on curriculum in one in one of three locations each day: Big Basin State Park, Natural Bridges State Beach, and a site day which includes an oak-madrone-redwood forest and an organic garden. Naturalists also assist with a 1-2 hour garden lesson during their site day.
On the last day of the week, a Closing Hike of approximately 1 hour is conducted to conclude the week for each trail group.
- Develop lessons that incorporate activities demonstrating basic ecological concepts, group and self-esteem building and development of citizenship skills. Strategies include hands-on explorations, dramatics, nature games, and creative writing.
- Monitor the implementation of Exploring New Horizons risk management and safety procedures in the field setting.

- Naturalists usually work with the same trail group for the entire week. This provides curricular continuity and consistency for each group and allows naturalists to more effectively meet the behavioral and learning needs of their students.
- Manage and care for all Exploring New Horizons field equipment.
- Support the development of positive group learning and team environment. Introduce team building opportunities to encourage positive communication, leadership and individual development.

Evening Programs:

- Prepare and participate in a night hike each week and one additional evening activity. Activities include Eco Teams in which students complete missions as a team to learn about natural resources, the 'Barnyard Boogie,' where naturalists play instruments and teach dances, or Skit Night, where students perform skits they have been practicing throughout the week. Evening activities run from 6:45 – 8:30 and are followed by a 30 minute campfire. Naturalists are expected to work two evenings a week.

Rotational & Miscellaneous Duties (conduct the following duties once or twice each week):

- Meals: Naturalists work 1-2 meals per week. This includes setup and cleanup of meals.
- Lights-Out: Naturalists work 1-2 lights out per week. This involves assisting counselors in getting students to bed at night.
- Project: Work on a curriculum project throughout the year to better the program.

Counselors:

- Provide support and feedback throughout the week for the high school counselors.
- Complete a written evaluation for the high school counselors that assist their trail groups for the week.

Rotational Jobs (about 6 Weeks per Year):

- a) Counselor Coordinator: Rotating position. The CC helps to train the counselors on the first day, meets with them throughout the week and communicates with the rest of the staff about their status. They also are running most dinners and evening activities and thus have a typical schedule of 3:00pm-10:00pm. They also sleep on-site and are on-call the duration of their week.
- b) Cabin Counselor: When there are not enough volunteer cabin counselors, serve as a cabin counselor for the week.
- c) On-call: Sleep on site and be on-call at night to assist counselors and students who need help.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

- Prior experience working with school aged students, preferably in an outdoor education setting.
- At minimum, a Bachelor's degree, preferably in Education, Environmental Science, Biology or equivalent experience
- Able to work a flexible schedule, evenings and weekends included
- Ability to move through a variety of terrains, including flat, rocky and mountainous terrain
- Capability to work in a variety of temperature and weather conditions
- Ability to see and respond to written, auditory and verbal instruction
- Good communication skills with students, teachers, counselors and co-workers
- Possess a valid driver's license and clean driving record
- All staff must possess a current Standard First Aid and CPR certificate prior to employment
- Wilderness First Responder or WFR is encouraged
- All Naturalists must be TB tested before employment
- Additional pay (\$5.00/day) is given for a current Teaching credential, a MS/MA in a related field, or certification as an EMT.

To apply: Send cover letter, application (found on website), and resume to: kira@exploringnewhorizons.org or mail to Kira Lucier, PO Box 1514, Felton, CA 95018. For more information please visit our website <http://www.exploringnewhorizons.org/>.

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