



Position Description **CAMP COUNSELOR**

Position Summary:

Camp Counselors are responsible for developing and presenting activities for children using zoo exhibits, animal artifacts, and classroom discovery stations. Camp Counselors will facilitate daily activities such as crafts, story reading, snacks, set-up and clean up. Camp Counselors will also mentor youth volunteers so they will become capable assistants working with children.

Resumes Accepted: January 1st – March 31st

- **If notified for interview, there is a REQUIRED group interview:** April 10th

Applicants will be notified of their status by: April 15th

Training & Set-up: Three weekends (May 22nd & 23rd, June 5th & 6th, and June 12th)

Position Begins: June 14th (estimated end of Oregon public school year)

Position Ends: September 3rd (estimated beginning of Oregon public school year)

Minimum requirements:

- 18 years of age
- 2 years working with children in formal or informal education setting
- Knowledge of zoology, biology, environmental education, ecology, or wildlife conservation concepts
- First Aid/CPR Certification preferred
- Food Handler's Card preferred
- All applicants (18 and older) are subject to a criminal background check

Type of Position & Compensation:

- Full-time Temporary position, 40 hrs/wk Monday-Friday. Employment dependent on enrollment.
- Pay rate is \$8/hour.

Required knowledge skills and abilities:

- Educational and interpretive skills to create age appropriate, active, fun, learning activities for children.
- Excellent child management skills and ability to mentor teens.
- Ability to work cooperatively and independently within a team.
- Understanding of basic ecology concepts.
- Effective communication skills.
- Able to walk up to 3 miles daily.

(over)

- Able to lift and carry up to 25lbs.

Responsibilities:

- Provide an educational, recreational, and safe summer experience for participants.
- Assist with planning and implementation of the camp schedule and activities.
- Work cooperatively with all zoo staff.
- Attend to the health and safety of the students at all times.
- Support all Zoo Camp, Oregon Zoo and Metro policies.
- Consistently project a positive, friendly attitude to all students, parents and zoo staff.

Specific Duties:

- Facilitate lessons, zoo tour, games, crafts and leading songs for up to 12 students.
- Promote positive attitudes towards environmental awareness through well-planned activities.
- Assist in facilitating large group activities, lessons and games for up to 40 students
- Assist in having lesson plans and preparations for camp completed.
- Prepare supplies, classroom set-up and clean-up, and other tasks necessary for running camp.
- Be aware of and prepared for any health problems listed on students' registrations.
- Create opportunities for all students to have a positive social experience, such as seeking out and helping shy children to find a comfortable peer group.
- Respond to disruptive behaviors and lost students.
- Inform Camp Specialist of any problem or incident that might be of concern to parents, students, or staff.

Responsible To:

Camp Specialist and Camp Director.

Send Interest/Skills Overview, Resume and Cover Letter to:

Education Division

Oregon Zoo

4001 SW Canyon Road

Portland OR 97221

or fax to: 503-220-5712