



Tate's Day Camp

Environmental Education/Nature Job Description

Overview

The Nature & Environmental Education Instructor brings the outdoors to life for campers through hands-on learning, exploration, and adventure. This role is perfect for someone who loves nature, enjoys teaching kids, and believes in the power of curiosity, discovery, and time spent unplugged.

Nature class at Tate's is more than learning about trees and critters — it's where campers build confidence, ask questions, develop outdoor skills, and connect with the natural world around them. As one of "The Fun Professionals," you help make that magic happen with enthusiasm, patience, and a spirit of adventure.

What You'll Love About This Job

- Teaching outdoors in our beautiful wooded areas and nature center
- Designing creative nature lessons that campers get excited about
- A strong support system from experienced program leaders
- Consistent daytime schedule with nights & weekends off
- Paid staff training
- A close-knit team of energetic, encouraging coworkers
- Helping kids discover confidence, curiosity, and a love of nature

Minimum Qualifications

- Training or experience in environmental education or outdoor living skills
- Ability to teach and demonstrate nature-related skills to children
- Ability to set up activity areas and manage equipment
- Desire and ability to work with children outdoors
- Good character, integrity, adaptability, enthusiasm, and patience
- Ability to accept guidance and feedback
- Ability to fulfill all Essential Functions of the job
- Successful completion of a background check and drug test

Responsible To

Camp Directors • Program Directors

Core Responsibilities

1. Plan and Lead Nature Activities

Specific Responsibilities:

- Teach hands-on lessons in outdoor skills and natural science
 - Provide engaging, age-appropriate activities for campers of all skill levels
 - Demonstrate equipment and safety procedures clearly and confidently
 - Encourage curiosity, respect for nature, and environmental awareness
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2. Prepare, Organize & Maintain Nature Program Areas

Specific Responsibilities:

- Set up the nature center and outdoor skills areas before camp begins
 - Organize and inventory supplies and equipment
 - Conduct daily safety and cleanliness checks of program areas
 - Request repairs or restocking of materials when needed
 - Pack and store all materials properly at the end of the season
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3. Create Themed Nature Curriculum

Specific Responsibilities:

- Develop lesson plans that connect with weekly camp themes
 - Adapt lessons for different age groups and learning styles
 - Create rainy-day or indoor-based nature activities as needed
 - Continuously refine curriculum to improve camper experience
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4. Support Staff & Camper Engagement

Specific Responsibilities:

- Train staff on their role in Nature class during staff training
 - Model excitement, curiosity, and environmental stewardship
 - Assist with special events (fun nights, campouts, family events, picnics)
 - Interact with campers during non-activity times similar to a counselor
 - Attend weekly staff meetings
 - Provide thoughtful end-of-season recommendations
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The Tate's Standard

At Tate's Day Camp, we build people up — never tear them down. The Nature Program is where campers learn resilience, observation skills, teamwork, and the joy of being outdoors. Your leadership, patience, and enthusiasm help make nature a place where every camper feels confident and capable.

Additional Notes

This job description is not exhaustive. Duties may be reassigned or expanded as needed to maintain a safe, fun, and impactful environment for campers.

Essential Functions of the Job

These functions are fundamental to the Nature Instructor role and reflect expectations for staff teaching outdoor skills in varying environments. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform these essential functions.

1. **Ability to communicate clearly** with campers, coworkers, and supervisors; provide instruction; and adapt to different learning needs.
2. **Ability to observe camper behavior**, respond to safety concerns, and implement appropriate behavior-support strategies.

3. **Ability to maintain a safe nature program environment**, enforce safety rules, and react calmly and quickly in emergencies.
4. **Visual and auditory ability** to identify hazards such as wildlife, uneven terrain, tools, or environmental risks.
5. **Physical ability** to set up and clean program areas, lift or move equipment up to 25 pounds, walk long distances, and navigate uneven or wooded terrain.
6. **Ability to work outdoors** in varying weather conditions, including heat, humidity, sun exposure, and occasional rain.
7. **Ability to maintain emotional regulation, focus, and situational awareness** in a high-energy, dynamic outdoor environment with children.