

## **Part Time Early Childhood Environmental Educator**

Part time, hourly, non-exempt position

Flexible hours

Supervisor: Grasshopper Grove Manager

The Hudson Highlands Nature Museum has a history of working with children and families to help them connect with nature through educational programs about our local environment and wildlife.

In 2013 the Museum installed a nature play area called Grasshopper Grove, where children can engage in creative outdoor play in nature such as building with loose parts, playing with water, making discoveries and generally exploring the natural world.

**Summary:** The Museum seeks educators to facilitate nature play in Grasshopper Grove and host children's Grasshopper Grove Birthday Parties during weekend public hours 9:30am-4:30pm (seasonal: April – November).

### **Qualifications:**

- Experience working in customer service related fields; a degree in Environmental Science, Education, or related Natural Sciences is a plus
- Experience working with pre-school aged children is preferred but not necessary
- Must be a team player with creativity, imagination, and energy
- Must have good communication and inter-personal skills
- Must possess a strong interest and enthusiasm about the environment and a desire to share that appreciation of nature with children and families
- Physically able to engage with children in the outdoors; some physical work required
- Must be available at least one weekend day a week to be considered for this position.

### **Responsibilities of Early Childhood Environmental Educator:**

1. Facilitate Nature Play in Grasshopper Grove:
  - a. Help children to get started engaging in creative outdoor play
  - b. Communicate nature play philosophy to visitors through informal discussion and by sharing literature
  - c. Set up and clean up nature play elements (brushes, shovels, scarves, toys)
  - d. Oversee conditions of play area to maintain safety
  - e. When Visitors Center is not staffed, greet general visitors to the Outdoor Discovery Center.
2. Grasshopper Birthday Parties (outdoor):
  - a. Coordinate party details with families who have booked parties
  - b. Prepare and set up party materials, and assist family upon their arrival
  - c. Collect a local insect or reptile from pond or trail on-site for a short presentation to children at the party
  - d. Assist in party clean-up
3. Visitor Center
  - a. Collect entrance fees for Grasshopper Grove and money from gift shop sales
  - b. Orient visitors with Outdoor Discovery Center and rules of the nature play area

Hourly Wage: Position carries a wage consistent with the staffing of a non-profit organization and commensurate with experience and skills.

The Museum is an equal opportunity employer.

To Apply: Send resume and cover letter to the Kristen O'Hara at the following email:  
[kohara@hnm.org](mailto:kohara@hnm.org). No calls please.