



Position Description

Job Title: Summer Camp Leader

Location: Juneau, AK

Duration: 5/24/21-8/18/21, with 1.5-2 full weeks off.

Background

For 30 years Discovery Southeast's education and exploration programs have deepened Southeast Alaskans' connection with nature in Lingít Aaní, the traditional lands of the Áak'w & T'aakú Kwáan. We are a regional non-profit started by outdoor leaders in Southeast Alaska to ensure that local residents, particularly children, experience the outstanding natural areas that travelers from around the world come to visit. Today, with many of those same founders still involved, our programs teach children to experience, be comfortable in, and explore nature with a field-based, hands-on approach. We strive to reach all Juneau youth, particularly those who might not otherwise be introduced to the outdoors at a young age. We aim to recruit, retain, and develop staff who bring traditional ecological knowledge, diverse backgrounds, and a mindset of curiosity about the complete history of Southeast Alaska.

Description and Goals of Position:

The Summer Camp Leader will spend the majority of their time in the field leading groups of elementary to middle school aged children as they explore the natural history of Juneau. This is part of Discovery Southeast's hands-on nature education summer camp, Outdoor Explorers. Leaders will work week-long day camps for most of the summer. They will co-lead a group of up to 13 children, ages 6-14, each week, engaging them with Juneau's natural areas through outdoor exploration, natural history, traditional ways of knowing, science based education, and outdoor games and activities. Leaders work directly with a co-educator and other program staff in the field, as well as partner with other local youth program providers for activities. Before and throughout the summer, leaders will receive training and experience in inquiry based, hands-on field leadership and Southeast Alaska natural history. The leader is also responsible for minimal coordination and administration of the summer program and reports to the Program Coordinator.

The position is full time, with 35-40 hours a week starting at a rate of \$15-16 per hour DOE. Camp Leaders will work 7-9 weeks of camp, with 1 week of training prior to camp, and a mid summer training, additional weeks off may be negotiable.

*** Pandemic Considerations: Due to the ongoing pandemic, our exact structure for camp will adjust as is appropriate for this developing situation. We ran a camp in 2020, and we will begin by planning for a similar structure as that summer.

Responsibilities:

- Provide support for, and ensure the physical and emotional safety and well-being of a group of up to 13 children ***which now includes following and implementing our regularly updated pandemic protocols.
- Promote good decision making skills, leadership, and a curiosity for the outdoors

- Prepare and facilitate fun, engaging lessons and activities with a focus on outdoor skills, natural history, and nature education
- Perform some administrative tasks in support of the summer day camp program, such as communicating with participant's parents and contacting local contractors
- Perform weekly duties including: restocking supplies, cleaning, and other tasks as necessary
- Participate in weekly staff meetings and in regular, open communication with co-workers

Qualifications:

- Experience and interest in working with elementary age children, particularly in group or outdoor education settings
- Experience managing groups of 6-12 children, such as sleepaway camp, daycamp, classroom experience, or coaching
- Experience planning and implementing engaging activities and games in an outdoor setting
- Experience in, and comfort with, the outdoors, such as guiding, backcountry travel, or natural history interpretation, preferably in southeast Alaska.
- Traditional Ecological Knowledge desired (not required)
- Enthusiasm for our goal of providing children formative experiences outdoors and a strong connection with nature
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills; ability to work on a team and to create a welcoming environment to all participants.
- First Aid and Child/Infant CPR certification (or higher) by start of employment, Wilderness First Aid or Responder is great but not required.
- Ability to maintain energy throughout an 8-hour day which could include: hiking up to 6 miles per day, carrying extra gear in daypack, sea kayaking, and other outdoor activities, often in wet weather.
- Must be able to attend training May 24th-28th, 2021
- Experience leading kayak programs is required *only* for those interested in working those camps.
- Comfort driving a 15 passenger van desired (not required)

Discovery Southeast provides regular training as well as on the job opportunities to train with experienced leaders. Applicants will need to pass a background check before employment.

Interested candidates should 1) submit a cover letter and résumé to Bess Crandall, at bess@discoverysoutheast.org, AND 2) Applicants who are current or recent university students may consider submitting a resume through the Alaska Conservation Foundation Ted Smith intern program (alaskaconservation.org/internships/). Applying through both routes gives applicants the most options.

More information about our programs is at DiscoverySoutheast.org. We prefer to receive applications by February 5th. Later applications will be considered as needed.