



Job Title	Nature Preschool Lead Team Teacher & Farm Community Program Educator
Reports to	Education Director
Position Type	Part-time, Non-Exempt, Hourly

Job Description:

This is a 3 day a week position through the school year with some additional days pre-scheduled throughout the summer months.

School Year: 2 days a week as one of a three person teaching team that teaches in an outdoor, nature based preschool from the end of August to the end of May. The 3rd day a week will be organizing and running additional programs for preschool aged children and their families on the Farm.

Summer: Assists in a handful of 1-day-long summer programs for our Nature Preschool families and continue to organize/teach/provide support of the additional preschool aged programs on the Farm

(*Additional hours are often available as a Farm Educator for field trips during the school year if so desired)

Roles:

- Team-teach a Nature Preschool class of mixed age group of 3-5 year olds
- Lead, teach, and learn in the Nature Preschool Community through education, exploration, and communication
- Lead groups of preschoolers & their caregivers 1 day a week in educational programming on the Farm
- May choose to coordinate with the Farm Operations Director on the days not scheduled to work, to fulfill the additional role of Farm Educator

Nature Preschool Teacher responsibilities include:

Leadership

- Partner with other teachers in the leadership and function of the school
- Participate in the day(s) of farm fundraisers and Autumn Fest
- Participate in weekly Preschool staff meetings
- Attend all-farm staff meetings

Safety

- Maintain required ratios at all times
- Be responsible for the health and safety of the children under care
- Daily risk assessment and monitoring of our environments
- Ensure fire code and health department rules are followed at all times

Curriculum, Screening, Assessment & Learning

- Using the Creative Curriculum and our environment, lead children in playful learning
 - Working together as a team, teachers will share the role of leader, develop activities, collect materials, books, and songs based on observation of the children's interests, needs, and the cycle of nature
- Work with and participate in screening using the Brigance IV screener for 3-5-year-olds
- Monitor children's work and play. Use these observations to work with other teachers and modify the environment and instructional approach to ensure student growth
- Participate in observational assessment using Teaching Strategies GOLD.
 - Teachers will be prompt and consistent with inputting data
- Prepare snacks and other materials as needed
- Provide rich process-oriented art opportunities regularly
- Lesson Planning/Paperwork
 - Prepare the environment for the following day
 - Change out classroom materials as needed
 - Alternate planning responsibilities with other team teachers for all developmental and cognitive domains
 - Document lesson plans, parent communications, artifact collection and all other relevant information on time
- Parent & Community
 - Communicate with parents through social media, software communication tools, informal conversations, portfolios, and parent conferences about student's growth
 - Plan and participate in parent education days, summer camp days and family engagement activities
- Professional Development
 - Maintain an OCCRA file
 - Participate in annual training and maintain all levels of training as required by ODJFS and SUTQ
 - Pursue other certifications and qualifications as discussed in the Professional Development plan
- Other
 - Fulfill daily cleaning assignment of the school with other teachers
 - Participate in teacher workdays outside of normal school hours
 - Participate in a handful of educational and community based events throughout the summer months

Community Preschooler & Caregiver Program responsibilities include:

Leadership

- Partner with the Education Director in the planning and preparing of weekly programs

Safety

- Be responsible for the health and safety of the participants under care
- Daily risk assessment and monitoring of our environments
- Ensure fire code and health department rules are followed at all times

Programming

- Plan and prepare nature-based programming for preschool aged participants that reflects the mission of the Learning Tree Farm to “Engage people in hands-on, nature-based learning in a timeless farm setting”
- Plan, prepare & lead 2 lessons per month for preschoolers & their caregivers based around seasons and different elements of the Farm. Lessons to include, but not limited to: a picture book, craft and hands-on learning experience based around theme for the day.
- Plan, prepare & lead 2 story-time sessions per month for preschoolers & their caregivers based around the seasons and different elements of the Farm. Sessions to include, but not limited to: picture book(s), song(s), and/or fingerplay(s)

Education Requirements

- High School Degree required
- Certificate or higher in Early Childhood Education preferred
- BS or higher in an educational field related to young children and/or Naturalist valued
- At least 3 years experience working in an early childhood setting required
- Experience in nature-based, child-led program valued

Additional Requirements

- Ability to manage a mixed age group of children and adults
- Must treat children in a gentle and positive manner while encouraging self awareness, individuality and positive self esteem
- Creativity, flexibility, enthusiasm and reliability
- Good communication skills, both verbal and written
- Able to communicate the mission, vision, and values of LTF in all work situations
- Basic knowledge of farm life, Ohio natural flora and fauna valued
- Must be able to....
 - lift a minimum of 40 lbs
 - bend, sit on the ground/floor, and stand again with relative ease
 - climb stairs
 - be on your feet for 6 hours +
 - hike a minimum of 2 miles
- Must be ready and willing to be outside everyday, in all types of weather, from cold to high heat, sunny to rainy and snowy.
- Must have gear to dress appropriately for all types of weather so that you may support the children fully
- Maybe exposed to poison ivy and biting/stinging insects

Reviewed by:

Amy Thompson/Kimberly Lovings

Employee
Signature:

Manager
Signature:

Date
Reviewed:

Updated 5/2/22