

Position Title: STEM Educator

Department: Experience & Operations

Reports to: Operations Manager

FLSA Classification: Non-Exempt

Type of Position: Part-Time

Hours: Hours vary; available shifts on weekdays 9am-1pm, weekends and holidays 9am-5pm.



GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Energetic, dependable individuals who enjoy working with children and their caregivers to inspire them to learn about science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Good public speaking, organizational, and guest service skills required. This position includes educational and general duties to support the daily operations of the Children's Science Center Lab.

SPECIFIC JOB RESPONSIBILITIES

Facilitate meaningful and educational experiences for children aged 2-12 and caregivers at the Children's Science Center Lab at Fair Oaks Mall. Support hands-on and exploratory activities throughout the Lab; may include support of off-site programs.

STEM Educators are expected to:

- Greet visitors in a friendly and positive way; respond to questions and needs in a positive and supportive manner;
- Learn about museum program activities, exhibits, and display competency in STEM topics demonstrated in activities and exhibits; be able to answer questions about the activity or topic; teach educational activities; participate in science demonstrations (training provided); be an ambassador to the public at all times;
- Set up activities and activity spaces and follow the established guidelines, menu and schedule for activities;
- Maintain control of event space and visitors/students;
- Make safety a priority;
- Actively engage the audience;
- Help maintain the facility and exhibits to ensure high standard of safety, cleanliness, quality, and overall appearance;
- Help maintain technology equipment;
- Monitor and restock supplies from storage and notify supervisory staff to reorder stock as necessary;
- Facilitate special educational programs and events and birthday parties as needed;
- Participate in formal training including cross-training for guest services;
- Help with basic facility maintenance to ensure a clean and attractive environment;
- Perform other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Completion of science studies at high school or college level with a college degree in progress or completed with focus on education, museum studies, or a field of science preferred; or high school juniors or seniors with prior volunteer or internship experience with the Science Center or similar organization.
- Experience working with children.
- Successful completion of a criminal background check.
- Successful completion of a national background check and drug screening may also be required.
- Must be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 (i.e., at least 2 weeks after last dose) and, if hired, present proof of vaccination by start date.

IDEAL CHARACTERISTICS

- A creative, imaginative, and innovative spirit coupled with a no fear attitude.
- Good leadership, communication, and presentation skills.
- The ability to engage effectively with children, adults, and other staff members.
- Awareness and sensitivity in interacting with diverse populations, including those that are underserved.
- Passion for education and desire to promote STEM education to all populations.
- Flexibility.
- A fun-loving attitude.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS OF JOB

These physical demands are representative of the physical requirements necessary for an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodation can be made to enable people with disabilities to perform the described essential functions:

Frequently required to:

- Speak and hear;
- Stand upright and/or walk on feet for up to five (5) hours at a time;
- Sit for up to five (5) hours at a time;
- Reach with arms and hands, including to raise arms overhead to move and lift up to thirty-five (35) pounds;
- Climb or balance;
- Stoop, kneel, crouch or crawl;
- Move or lift at least fifty (50) pounds;
- Use hands and digits to manipulate, handle, and feel.
- Vision abilities required by this job include close vision (close vision at 20 inches or less), distance vision (clear vision at 20 feet or more), color vision (ability to identify and distinguish colors), peripheral vision (ability to observe an area that can be seen up and down or to the left and right while eyes are fixed on a given point), depth perception (three-dimensional vision, ability to judge distances and spatial relationships), and ability to adjust focus (ability to adjust the eye to bring an object into sharp focus).

Occasionally required to:

- Smell;
- Perform repetitive motions;
- Use eye, hand, and foot coordination.

WORK ENVIRONMENT OF JOB

While performing the responsibilities of the job, these work environment characteristics are representative of the environment the STEM Educator encounters. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable people with disabilities to perform the essential functions of the job.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is occasionally exposed to outdoor weather conditions, and may be required to wear a protective lab coat, protective glasses, and/or protective gloves. Employee may be required to use chemicals with Material Safety Data Sheets provided. Employee may need to use very hot or very cold liquids. Employee may be required to utilize light tools and equipment in the performance of duties. The noise level in the work environment is typically moderate to loud.

CONCLUSION

This job description is intended to convey information essential to understanding the scope of the STEM Educator position and it is not intended to be an exhaustive list of skills, efforts, duties, responsibilities, or working conditions associated with the position. The Northern Virginia Science Center Foundation reserves the right to revise duties as needed. Successful completion of a criminal background check is required.

The Northern Virginia Science Center Foundation is committed to equal employment opportunity and providing reasonable accommodations to qualified candidates and employees pursuant to applicable law. We value and encourage diversity and solicit applications from all qualified applicants without regard to race, color, gender, sex, age, religion, creed, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, marital status, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, medical condition, military and veteran status, gender identity or expression, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state, or local law. If you require reasonable accommodation as part of the application process please contact hr@childsci.org.