



Position Description: Early Childhood Teacher-Naturalist

The Montana Audubon Center is seeking a responsible, enthusiastic professional to assist in growing our early childhood program, including our Fledglings Nature Preschool. As one of the only Nature Preschools in Montana and a member of the Natural Start Alliance, Fledglings is founded on the idea that kids learn best through play and hands-on experiences. The ideal candidate will be able to work year-round, both for the school year preschool program and our Fledglings summer session.

Position Duties

- Supervision and instruction of groups of up to 12 youth, ages 2-5, in the outdoors and in the classroom
- Provide a safe and positive environment for all program participants, including awareness of physical abilities, environmental hazards, and group dynamics.
- Assistance with program registration, processing of payment and other administrative duties related to education programs
- Development and/or adaptation of early childhood curriculum and programming for day, week, month, and year-long program sessions
- Progress evaluation of students, including in academic and non-academic areas
- Coordination and communication with parents/guardians of program participants
- Communication with the general public about Center programs and mission
- Maintain a quality program, including regular evaluations of both successes and failures in programming, approach, equipment, or other aspects, and enhance or adapt as necessary

Qualifications

- Comfort leading and teaching youth ages 2-5 in outdoor settings, including emphasis on risk management and other executive functions, and learning that emerges from play
- Experience in Montessori, Interest-led Flow Learning, Reggio, Inquiry Learning, Place-based, or similar educational pedagogies.
- Ability to:
 - engage in outdoor activity and supervise others in a variety of weather conditions
 - walk for long distances, crouch, lift up to 50#, and wrangle small children unaided
- Interest and/or specific knowledge of natural history subjects, particularly in the local area.
- Responsible, dependable, and enthusiastic.
- Team-oriented approach as well as the ability to self-motivate and work independently

Position details

- Hours vary, depending on program registration, expected 15-20 average / week
- Supervised by Preschool program lead

To apply: submit cover letter, resume, and contact information for three professional references to Carolyn Sevier, Center Director, csevier@mtaudubon.org. For questions, contact Carolyn via e-mail or at 406-294-5099.