

PALOUSE ROOTS OUTDOOR EDUCATOR



PROJECT SPONSOR: Palouse Roots Nature School
LOCATION: PCEI Nature Center, Moscow, ID.

POSITION TIMELINE: September 1, 2024, and ends June 6, 2025 (675 hours, approximately 20 hours a week).

POSITION SUMMARY:

We are seeking an Outdoor Educator, needed 20 hours per week during the 2024-2025 school year. They will be based at PCEI'S Palouse Nature Center, regularly on weekdays: Mondays - Thursdays, 8:30 am-1:30 pm, with closures following the Moscow School District and/or weather-related. Additional obligations may include staff meetings, education outreach, workdays, and community events.

The Outdoor Educator will be working with children between the ages of 4 -7 in an outdoor environment and will have knowledge and experience in play-based learning, and emergent curriculum. The Outdoor Educator will lead children and groups in play-based environmental education activities. They will help teach new skills and instill a love for our natural world. This position will fully support PCEI's Palouse Roots Nature School.

JOB TASKS:

- Teach a nature-based curriculum under the direction of the Palouse Roots Coordinator.
- Help plan and/or carry out intentional lessons each week for our participants.
- Work together with fellow nature school teachers, staff, and participants.
- Effectively communicate with the Palouse Roots Coordinator, staff, and families.
- Set up and pack up outdoor classroom materials each day.
- Maintain school supplies, lessons, and gear.
- Ensure regular headcount of students (every 5 minutes or when changing an activity; whichever is shorter).
- Assist children with the restroom, gear, clothing layers, and clothing changes.
- Help children learn to assess their needs and body awareness.
- Watch for and encourage the physical, emotional, and social health of the students.
- Make keen observations of the natural world and of the participants.

- Represent the school philosophy and core values at community, networking, and fundraising events.
- Sing songs, play, be physically active, and model Palouse Roots core values.
- Be actively engaged and contribute to developing the emergent curriculum.
- Observe and document the children's learning, behavior, and development.
- Observes all rules and regulations of the school and local, state, or national regulatory agencies pertaining to the health, safety, and care of children.
- Address the individual needs of each child as they emerge.
- Model kindness, wonder, engagement, and empathy.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Active interest in the natural world and a commitment to its use as a central daily learning and play environment;
- Strong verbal communication skills - Able to speak clearly, positively, and effectively with both children and staff.
- Ability to be outside in all types of weather conditions and maintain a positive attitude.
- Ability to problem-solve and be flexible with changing conditions.
- Willingness to learn and play along with students and staff.
- Knowledge of/desire to learn about local ecology, flora, fauna, and animals.
- Exhibit a genuine nurturing and caring attitude to all the children.
- Enthusiasm to explore the outdoors w/children on a daily basis.
- Willingness to get dirty, sit on the ground in exploration, and play.
- Ability to bring wonder and curiosity to learning and join in imaginative play.
- Strong organizational, time management, and project management skills.
- A cooperative manner and the ability to serve as part of a diverse team.
- Ability to maintain professional attitude and work behavior.
- Able to lift up to 50 lbs. and move easily in an outdoor setting in various weather conditions.
- CPR First Aid certification or willingness to get certified.

AMERICORPS POSITION REQUIREMENTS:

- 18 years of age or older, at the beginning of the service term.
- U.S. citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident.
- Ability to commit to the full term of service for which they are applying.
- Must successfully pass a fingerprint criminal history background check provided through PCEI.
- Maintain regular and reliable attendance and dependability.
- Complete and submit all necessary AmeriCorps paperwork and reports in a timely manner.

- Attend and complete all PCEI AmeriCorps training and service requirements including orientation, training, and national service days.
- Willingness to contribute to the spirit of community volunteerism and teamwork.

BENEFITS:

- A taxable living allowance totaling \$8,360 for 10-month member, paid over the term of service. This roughly calculates to \$925 total per month (before taxes).
- Childcare allowance for those who qualify.
- Professional development, training, and networking opportunities.
- Upon successful completion of a term of service, eligible members receive an education award of \$2,817 for this position. The education award can be used to repay qualified student loans or for further education in an accredited institution of higher learning, vocational, or trade schools. The education award is taxed in the year that it is used.
- AmeriCorps will pay the accrued interest on qualified student loans after successful completion of a term of service.

To apply submit a cover letter, resume, and contact information with two references to the PCEI AmeriCorps Program Director, Courtney Warner at: courtneywarner@pceiamericorps.org

POSITION OPEN UNTIL FILLED.