

Nature Education Assistant Internship

Corvallis Environmental Center Background: The CEC envisions a community in which People Learn, People Care, People Act. In pursuit of this vision, our mission is to educate, engage, and inspire people to create a healthy, sustainable community. We do this through nature-based education, local & healthy food initiatives, and energy conservation programs. The CEC was founded in 1994 as a grassroots effort to take action on environmental issues and today reaches over 15,000 people in Benton County and surrounding area through its programs and services. CEC educational programming and community events are held at the Avery House Nature Center, Starker Arts Garden for Education (SAGE), in community schools, and outside at various parks and other locations. The CEC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

Position Description: As the Nature Education Assistant intern with the CEC, you will be an integral part of creating and implementing place-based environmental education for all ages. We work in schools, local natural spaces, at our Nature Center in Avery Park and throughout the Corvallis community. Programs include after-school enrichment, field trips, in-classroom lessons, and more. Students learn about local ecology, healthy eating choices, supporting regional farmers, and more while exploring the natural world around them, increasing their environmental literacy. We provide a wide range of programs under the Nature Education umbrella, and work with interns to design their experience around their interests. More information about our education programs can be found here:

<http://www.corvallisenvironmentalcenter.org/ourprograms/>

Position Responsibilities:

The Nature Education Assistant intern will work under the supervision of the Nature Programs Coordinator and will be responsible for the following:

- Participate in CEC Internship Orientation
- Participate in Field Trip training and assist with Corvallis Environmental Center field trips, including field trips at SAGE, local wetlands, Avery Park, and offsite locations
- Design and implement age-appropriate activities, and lessons, related to nature education
- Help bring more local nature, food, gardens, and agricultural education to our students
- Participate in community activities surrounding nature, food, health, and children
- Pursue your own project to contribute to increased awareness among the next generation about our planet
- Participate in at least one CEC event (Wild & Scenic Film Festival, Fungus family Fun, etc.)
- OPTIONAL: Earn academic credits— available to LBCC & OSU students. See our website and check in with your advisor to see if this internship qualifies for your academic program
- Support other needs of CEC's educational programming as needed

Qualifications:

- Experience working with children
- Ability to communicate effectively with a diverse group of people, including children as young as 5
- Interest or background in environmental and/or nature-based education
- An ability to pass a criminal background check
- CPR/1st Aid certified or willingness to complete training
- Punctual and reliable, organized, and holds a positive attitude!
- A creative self-starter with the ability to take initiative and problem solve

For more information, contact the Program Director at: Emily@corvallisenvironmentalcenter.org