

## Early Childhood Nature Educator 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 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:** The Corvallis Environmental Center's Avery House Nature Center focuses on early childhood education through nature-based learning. We run the NaturePlay Preschool (for ages 3-5) M-F from 9:00 to 12:00 and our Niños de la Naturaleza (Bilingual Natureplay Preschool) program (for ages 4-6) which runs T & Th from 1:00 to 3:00. This means that shifts for interns would be M-F 8-12:30 or T & Th from 12:30-4 with the option of working a full 8:00-4:30 day if your schedule allows. Interns will assist in the preschool classroom, prep and clean up snacks, art projects and activities. They will also help with developing curriculum for our nature education programs. We would prefer for Nature Preschool Interns to stay with us for two or more consecutive terms, if possible. Being bilingual is not a requirement for working with the Natureplay PM Preschool program.

### **Position Responsibilities:**

Early Childhood Nature Educator interns will work under the supervision of the Nature School Manager and will be expected to:

- Design, and implement age-appropriate activities, and lessons, related to nature education
- Develop and commit to a work plan and schedule
- Support the needs of CEC's educational programming
- Participate in CEC internship orientation
- 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
- OPTIONAL: Pursue your own project to contribute to the Avery House Nature Center's educational programming

### **Qualifications:**

- Effectively communicate with a diverse group of people including children as young as 3 yrs old
- A creative self-starter with the ability to take initiative and problem solve
- Ability to pass a criminal background check
- CPR/1st Aid certified or willingness to complete training
- Interest or background in environmental and/or nature-based education
- Punctual and reliable, organized and a positive attitude!

For more information, contact our Nature School Manager: [Nima@corvallisenvironmentalcenter.org](mailto:Nima@corvallisenvironmentalcenter.org)