



Zoo Camp Internship Position Description

Position Title: Education Intern

Reports to: *Henry Vilas Zoological Society* Conservation Education Manager and Henry Vilas Zoo Conservation Education Curator

Summary of Duties: Interns are the core of the Summer Zoo Camp learning experience. Interns are responsible for implementing camper-led scientific and engineering investigations based around real-life scenarios at the zoo. Interns will also be responsible for working with counselors and teen volunteers who assist with camp. Interns should be prepared to learn about the Next Generation Science Standards and current education methods, be able to let children make discoveries for themselves. This is a great experience for anyone wanting to go into elementary or middle school education, science education or science-related fields, or environmental education. A love for children is essential and an interest in animals is important. You'll get to go behind-the-scenes and meet animals up-close daily, although you will not be handling animals yourself.

Distinguishing Features: Interns help to implement the Zoo's educational programming by facilitating our scientific investigations and engineering challenges. You will present the challenges to campers, establish norms for scientific investigations and discussions, and use specific questioning skills to push campers' critical thinking. The curriculum is set, so you must be comfortable learning several programs and setting up for them independently. Must be comfortable upholding Zoo Camp's behavior policy, with support from camp management. Must be willing to learn and support the vision of the Education Department, Henry Vilas Zoo, and Henry Vilas Park Zoological Society. Must show respect equally for all

animal species. Must be punctual and reliable.

This is a part-time internship. We are looking for multiple interns for two shifts:

AM Shift: 8:00 am - 12 pm

PM Shift: 12:30 - 4:30 pm (or 12 pm - 4 pm)

Examples of Duties: The wide variety of duties include setting up for and leading science-based inquiry activities. You will be responsible for creating an atmosphere that encourages campers to expand their thinking about science and engineering concepts, articulate their ideas, and listen respectfully to each other. Assist with child management. Effectively communicate with parents. Help maintain a clean classroom space. When needed, positively interact with zoo guests out on zoo grounds. Assist with the preparation and delivery of camp programs.

Experience Required

Qualifications: Interns must have an appreciation for science education and a commitment to conservation and working with children and animals. A background in science, education or psychology a plus. A minimum of one year of college coursework is required, with preference given to applicants who have completed several years of college. Previous experience working with kids is preferred, especially in a classroom or camp setting. Must have CPR and First Aid training or be willing to get it before camp starts.

Must be available for paid training on June 5th, 6th, and 7th from 9:30 - 4:00 pm. You will also work eleven weeks of camp during the summer between June 10th and August 30th. We only have camp on Monday and Tuesday for the week of the 4th of July and you will have the rest of that week off.

Physical Requirements: Strength to perform average lifting of less than 5 pounds and occasionally over 15 pounds; body agility and equilibrium for activities including touring and games; back and leg coordination for activities involving stooping, kneeling, and crouching. Zoo Camp requires daily walks (a minimum of 20 - 30 minutes) through the Zoo and may walk 2 or more miles per day. Must be comfortable in extreme temperatures and rain as our camps are outside as much as possible.

Further Comments

Must be available for training from June 5th - 7th and for eleven weeks of summer camp between June 10th and August 30th, 2019.

We are able to offer a stipend of \$250 for the summer

How to Apply

Interested individuals who meet the minimum requirements should email a cover letter and resume to education@vilaszoo.org.

Application Deadline: Ongoing. Applications materials will begin to be reviewed in February, 2019. Filing period may close at any time it is deemed a sufficient number of applications have been received.

Based on the number of responses received, the Henry Vilas Zoo and Henry Vilas Park Zoological Society reserves the right to pre-screen all resumes in order to arrive at a more manageable candidate pool.

Interviews are tentatively scheduled for late February or early March. Interviews are in-person only.

Education Department

Henry Vilas Zoo

702 S Randall Avenue

Madison, WI 53715

education@vilaszoo.org

Phone: 608-258-9490