



HANA AND ARTHUR GINZBURG

# nature discovery center

## Contract Educator (Programs + Events)

**Reports To:** Executive Director

**Employment Status:** Contract

**Compensation:** Starting at \$20-\$23/hour (varies by experience)

**Application Deadline:** We hire on a rolling basis

### About the Nature Discovery Center

The Nature Discovery Center (NDC) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to inspiring children, families, and adults alike to connect with nature through hands-on learning and discovery. Located in the heart of Bellaire, our 4-acre urban nature park welcomes over 20,000 visitors annually and serves thousands of children through school programs, camps, and community events.

At NDC, we believe that meaningful experiences in nature build curiosity, empathy, and a lifelong respect for the natural world.

### Position Overview

The Nature Discovery Center is seeking enthusiastic, reliable, and engaging **Contract Educators** to support a variety of youth programs, including:

- Summer Camps
- Field Trips and Outreach Programs
- Birthday Parties
- Scout Programs and Special Events

Contract Educators lead hands-on, nature-based learning experiences for children ages 0-12, helping to create memorable, joyful, and educational moments in an outdoor setting.

This is a flexible, as-needed position ideal for educators, college students, or individuals passionate about working with children and the environment. Programs last anywhere from 2 hours to a full week (5 day, 8 hours per day) commitments (in the case of summer camp).

This role is ideal for individuals who are not only comfortable leading groups of children, but who take pride in creating well-run, meaningful learning experiences.

### Key Responsibilities

- Lead and facilitate engaging, age-appropriate programs for children
- Guide outdoor exploration, nature play, and simple science-based activities
- Support set-up and clean-up of program materials and spaces
- Maintain a safe, positive, and inclusive environment for all participants
- Adapt programming based on group dynamics, weather, and age range



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- Represent the Nature Discovery Center with professionalism and warmth

## Knowledge, Skills & Abilities

- **Certification:** Active First Aid/CPR certification is required. Candidates who need to obtain or renew certification prior to their start date may be eligible for reimbursement — just ask us about it.
- Experience and passion for working with children (ages 0 – 12)
- Enthusiasm for nature, outdoor learning, and environmental education
- Comfort handling ambassador animals (or willingness to learn)
- Strong communication and group facilitation skills
- Ability to engage and manage small groups of children
- Comfortable providing light direction and support to volunteers during programs
- Flexibility, reliability, and a positive, can-do attitude
- Comfort working outdoors in varying weather conditions
- Ability to work independently with minimal supervision
- Reliable transportation

## Preferred Qualifications

- Background or coursework in education, environmental science, biology, or related fields
- Experience working with children in camps, classrooms, or informal education settings

## Physical Requirements

- Ability to work outdoors for extended periods
- Ability to walk on uneven terrain
- Ability to lift and carry up to 25 pounds
- Ability to lead active programming (walking, standing, engaging with children)

## Additional Information

- Training and program support will be provided
- Background check required

## Why Join Us?

- Flexible, as-needed scheduling that works around your life - weekday and weekend opportunities available
- Meaningful work outdoors, leading hands-on experiences that kids genuinely remember
- A supportive team that invests in your success - training and program materials provided
- Opportunity for recurring work and expanded hours as you build your experience with us
- Be part of something bigger: NDC serves 20,000+ visitors annually and is growing



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### **How to Apply**

Please send a resume and brief note of interest to:

**Meredith Wheeler, Executive Director, [hiring@NatureDiscoveryCenter.org](mailto:hiring@NatureDiscoveryCenter.org)**