



Vermont Institute of Natural Science Wilderness Camp Instructor

TITLE: Wilderness Camp Instructor

SUMMARY: Nature Day and Overnight Camps – Environmental, wilderness-based education programs for children ages 4-13

REPORTS TO: Lead Nature Camp and Adult Programs

The Vermont Institute of Natural Science is seeking energetic, conservation-minded educators to lead our Nature Camp programs. With over 46 years of environmental education experience, VINS offers children in the Upper Valley of Vermont and New Hampshire a fun and safe way to learn about nature through an exciting summer of outdoor exploration, adventure, and discovery.

Instructor Duties:

- Plan and deliver a variety of daily summer camp programs to a various age groups
 - Create safe, fun, and educational outdoor opportunities
 - Supervise and facilitate quality camp programming and lead three weeklong overnight camps
 - Be able to develop, plan, teach, and lead engaging activities related to natural science, various wilderness survival skills ranging from basic to advanced levels and outdoor target archery
 - Facilitate a wide range of activities including: group games, outdoor sports, adventure scenarios, geo-caching, orienteering, leadership skills, craft activities, nature hikes, and other hands-on activities
 - Maintain excellent rapport and communication with parents of camp participants on a daily basis
 - Share and communicate teaching responsibilities and planning with co-instructors
 - Support and mentor other instructors and Leaders-in-Training (L-I-Ts)
 - Develop and maintain excellent communication with the Lead Nature Camp, Nature Camp Assistant, Instructors, VINS staff, and volunteers
 - Act as a professional representative of the Vermont Institute of Natural Science
 - Participate in all scheduled staff training sessions and camp events
- Specific duties will vary according to program, hours, age range, and camp location*

Requirements and Qualifications:

- Must be at least 21 years old
- Education: Bachelor's Degree or currently working towards a degree in education, natural sciences, or related field of study preferred
- Previous work experience with groups of children is a must, experience with summer

- camps, environmental education, outdoor education preferred
- Experience and knowledge of wilderness survival skills and general knowledge of basic ecological processes and New England natural history a must, or willing to learn
- Experience developing curriculum or programs, a plus
- Instruction experience in archery, canoeing, Leave No Trace, wilderness first aid, and backcountry travel, a plus
- Passionate about conservation and environmental education
- Flexibility and willingness to adapt to and facilitate change
- Excellent organizational and communication skills
- Ability to work well independently and as part of a team
- Ability to carry bulky, heavy teaching equipment (up to 40 lbs)
- Ability to lead field trips over diverse terrain in all weather conditions
- Current driver's license and clean driving record
- USA Archery Level I instructor certification, to be provided during training period
- Current Wilderness First Aid and CPR certifications a must, or willing to obtain
- Lifeguard Certification a must, or willing to obtain
- General computer literacy including ability to use Microsoft Office programs

Compensation and Work Schedule:

- Full time, seasonal position
- Compensation: \$455+ stipend per week based on experience
- The summer schedule includes six weeks of day camp Monday – Friday and three weeks of overnight camp, Sunday – Friday
- The term of employment is June 5, 2019 through August 21, 2019 with one unpaid week off (some flexibility for appropriate candidates)

All VINS staff working directly with children is subject to a thorough background check, including fingerprinting and a criminal record check.

TO APPLY:

Send resume, cover letter, and three professional references to Sarah Strew:

Email: [sstrew@vinsweb.org](mailto:ssstrew@vinsweb.org)
Mail: VINS, Attn: Sarah Strew
PO Box 1281
Quechee, VT 05059

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

April 1, 2018

VINS' mission is to motivate individuals and communities to care for the environment through education, research and avian wildlife rehabilitation.