



Cowichan Estuary Nature Centre

Position: Science & Nature -Summer Camp Coordinator

Hours: 35hours/week

Work Term: June 6th to August 31st 2022 – approx. 12 weeks,

Compensation: \$18.00/hr

What We Do: This is our 10th year offering nature-based summer camps at the Cowichan Estuary Nature Centre in Cowichan Bay. The Cowichan Estuary Nature Centre is an educational interpretive centre in the Cowichan Estuary, a 400-hectare estuarine ecosystem. The Nature Centre offers hands-on programming for schools, youth and the general public, plus summer science camps, creatively engaging participants in learning activities related to nature, local watersheds and ecosystems, conservation and restoration, and citizen science. Visitors and program participants can view marine and intertidal creatures in our aquarium observation tank; use our microscopes, telescopes and interactive displays, and learn about wildlife along our oceanfront interpretive trail, from our viewing tower and through hands-on science projects. The Nature Centre is kept open to the public by a dedicated team of volunteers and educational programs are led by professional nature interpreters assisted by volunteers.

Job Description: Science & Nature Summer Camp Coordinator

The role of the Summer Camp Coordinator is a hands-on, energy intensive position. It balances administrative and planning work with leading hands-on science and nature-based camp activities and play. Supported by the Nature Centre Coordinator, the Camp Coordinator will help develop key event planning, educational, and leadership skills. Additional mentorship is provided by Cowichan Valley Naturalist and Nature Centre volunteers in understanding the estuarine environment in which they will be working and related environmental issues, topics, and concerns to support them in leading locally focused Science and Nature Camps, as well as in areas of nature interpretation, wildlife conservation and habitat restoration.

In June, you will assist staff in leading our school programs and work on updating previous camp curriculum to create unique and engaging summer camp programming, primarily outdoors due to Covid-19. Tasks vary from managing registrations, answering parent inquiries, and may even include assisting a biologist in seal or heron rescue. You will be responsible for planning schedules and events for each of our week-long camps consistent with current Covid-19 health and safety protocols, and during our camp season (July – August) you and another camp leader will lead camps of up to 12 children or youth through each day's activities. Your days will be fun, dynamic and no day will look the same!

Duties

- Develop and plan curriculum, including inquiry science-based activities, arts, games, and crafts.
- Lead summer science camps for groups of children and youth each week, including preparation and clean up.
- Take responsibility for the welfare and learning of students, including reviewing campers' medical forms and releases prior to each week's camp, setting behavior limits and ensuring safe and appropriate camper behavior as needed, all within the camp's Covid-19 health and safety protocols.
- Deliver community education and awareness programs, such as nature walks and school programs.
- Prepare publicity and promotional materials.
- Organize, maintain and purchase camp supplies.
- Train, mentor, and coordinate youth volunteers for the Nature Centre.
- Perform other general office duties including answering phone, email and in-office inquiries.
- Be available for some weekends and evenings as required.



Cowichan Estuary Nature Centre

Qualifications:

- Accountable, enthusiastic, adaptable, and self-starting.
- Passion for working with children and youth.
- A love of the outdoors, play and hands-on activities.
- Experience working with children and youth, managing behaviors and creating safe spaces to foster learning.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team within a non-profit organization.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills; comfortable interacting with the public.
- Willing to ask for help and accept feedback.
- Excellent computer skills in a Microsoft Office suite, social media and website maintenance an asset.
- Applicants must be between 18 and 30 years old.
- Preferably studying or demonstrated interest in one of the following fields: Education, Child and Youth Care or associated degrees; Biology, Earth and Ocean Sciences, Environmental sciences.
- As per the national priority to improve access to the labour market for youth who face unique barriers, preference will be **given to young women in the sciences who are currently enrolled in or aim to be enrolled in post secondary studies in science, or who are currently pursuing a career in the sciences.**

How to Apply: Please submit a cover letter and resume by **11:59pm April 20th** via email, mail or in person to:

Amy Clinton-Baker
Coordinator
Cowichan Estuary Nature Centre

Box 5 Cowichan Bay Rd
Cowichan Bay, BC V0R 1N0
Email: amy@cowichanestuary.ca

Cowichan Estuary Nature Centre thanks all applicants for their interest. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Positions are subject to Canada Summer Jobs funding.

