



Cowichan Estuary Nature Centre

Position: Science & Nature-Summer Camp Leader

Hours: 25-27 hours/week

Work Term: June 20st to August 31, 2022 -up to 10 weeks

Compensation: \$18.00/hr

What We Do: This is our 10th year offering nature-based summer day 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 Leader

The role of the Summer Camp Leader is a hands-on, energy intensive position focused on co-leading hands-on science and nature-based camp activities and play, primarily outdoors because of Covid-19. The Summer Camp Leaders will assist the Summer Camp Coordinator in final preparations for the summer science & nature camp programs including program activities, learning outcomes, and schedules. They will be mentored and trained by Nature Centre staff, volunteers and local naturalists in understanding the estuarine environment in which they will be working and related environmental issues, topics, and concerns to support them in delivering a locally focused summer science and nature camp.

June: The Summer Camp Leader may assist in the delivery of programs to school aged children visiting the Cowichan Estuary Nature Centre. Other duties will include assisting the Camp Coordinator in developing activities and schedules for the summer camps to be delivered in July and August.

July & August: Together, the Summer Camp Leader, along with the Summer Camp Coordinator, will be the team delivering the summer science and nature camps for groups up to 12 children, including science, art, and recreation activities. Children attending the camps range in age from 5-9. The Summer Camp Leader may also assist the Coordinator with public education events for families, seniors, and tourists.

Duties

- Assist the summer camp coordinator in developing and planning curriculum, including inquiry science-based activities, arts, games, and crafts.
- Co-lead summer science camps to 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.
- Help prepare publicity and promotional materials.
- Organize and maintain camp supplies.
- Train, mentor, and coordinate youth volunteers for the Nature Centre.
- Perform other general office duties including answer phone, email and in-office inquiries.



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- Be available for some weekends and evenings as required.

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.
- Computer skills in a Microsoft Office suite, social media and website maintenance an asset.
- Applicants must be between 15 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 or associated degrees.
- 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 whom 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.

