



Traveling Natural History Program Instructor

Position duration: *Mid-January – December 2012*

Posted: November 10, 2011

Position open until filled

Chewonki Foundation, Inc., is a year-round, nonprofit environmental education center based on a 400-acre peninsula in mid-coast Maine. We offer semester school for high school juniors, summer camps for boys and girls, co-ed wilderness expeditions for teens and adults, programs for independent and public school groups, and traveling natural history programs.

Chewonki Mission

Chewonki is dedicated to helping people grow individually and in community with others by providing educational experiences that foster an understanding, appreciation and stewardship of the natural world and that emphasize the power of focused, collective effort.

Traveling Natural History Program Description

Chewonki's Traveling Natural History Program uses outreach lessons, non-releasable live animals, and hands-on activities to teach in surrounding communities year-round. On campus, we care for resident animals, which include raptors, reptiles, mammals, amphibians, and arthropods. These non-releasable animals are trained to be comfortable in teaching situations, and require daily care and detailed record keeping. Off campus, we travel across the entire state of Maine, and occasionally into New Hampshire and Massachusetts. We teach programs for all ages and visit schools, libraries, community organizations, and businesses.

The Traveling Natural History Program shares our Wiscasset campus with many other programs. For descriptions of our other programs, visit www.chewonki.org. Most faculty, instructors, apprentices and interns live on campus and work together to make the community a successful one.

Instructor Responsibilities

1. Caring for our educational resident animals

The instructor will be responsible for learning each animal's daily feeding and care routine, understanding and practicing safe animal handling techniques, and demonstrating best practices in teaching with live animals.

2. Teaching natural history lessons

Each instructor will have the opportunity to observe, learn, and teach many natural history topics to participants (pre K – assisted living adults) in a variety of teaching settings. All instructors will be able to take advantage of observing experienced educators and will be exposed to a variety of leadership styles and teaching methods, in order to improve their own teaching.

3. Assisting with daily tasks, projects, and student work program

Instructors may be asked to complete projects, help with office tasks, repair equipment, create educational materials, or research new topics. In addition, our instructors often lead work programs with Chewonki Semester School students.

4. Developing (or enhancing) a solid natural history background

We provide animal background information, detailed presentation notes, staff development learning opportunities, and time to research natural history topics. We also expect that all instructors will take the time to prepare for programs and enhance their learning outside of work time.

5. Living responsibly in community

Instructors are required to live on campus. Staff members living on campus are asked to whole-heartedly participate in community living. This may include, but most likely is not limited to, dish crew, community workdays, snow shoveling, or helping when many hands are needed.

Preferred Qualifications

A BS or BA Degree in education, natural sciences, or related field

Prior experience working with animals

Prior teaching experience and comfort with public speaking

Ability to lift up to 40 lb.

Candidates must pass a driving record and background check before hire

Salary and Benefits

\$455 weekly salary

Room and board (*this will be a payroll deduction of \$195/week*)

Health insurance

2 weeks paid vacation

Access to outdoor equipment and potential pro-purchase opportunities

within Chewonki's wilderness trip office guidelines

To Apply

Please email your letter of interest, resume and references to **hr@chewonki.org**

Please direct any questions regarding this posting to Anna Hunt at 207-882-7323 ext.148