



**Job Title:** Field Trip Teaching Volunteer or Intern  
**Employer:** Thorne Nature Experience; Boulder, CO  
**Job Status:** Part time, Seasonal position. One or more 5 hour day(s) per week (Tuesday-Friday) for all 6 weeks of field trip season.  
**Pay Rate:** Unpaid  
**Reports to:** Gwen Tenney, Program Manager – Field Trip & Volunteers, [Gwen@thornenature.org](mailto:Gwen@thornenature.org), 303-499-3647 ext. 103  
**Application Deadline:** Rolling, until filled. Apply ASAP. Interviews will be held in September and March.  
**Application Process:** **To apply, submit a Volunteer Application through Google Forms <https://goo.gl/forms/EaPzvM4CS1fhklb72>.**

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**Thorne Mission and History:**

Thorne Nature Experience is a non-profit organization that is committed to building Earth stewardship by connecting youth to nature through joyful, hands-on, place-based environmental education experiences. Thorne believes in ensuring access for all youth to discovery, exploration, and a connection to the natural world. Founded in 1954, Thorne has a rich history and has reached more than 250,000 children and adults through its three programs: In-School, Summer Camp, and Field Trip.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Field Trip Program Description:**

Thorne is seeking enthusiastic, environmentally aware individuals who want experience working with youth in an outdoor setting to serve as Volunteers or Interns for Thorne's Field Trip Programs in both Boulder and Longmont. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Field Trip Program is in partnership with the Boulder Valley School District and St. Vrain Valley School District and will connect nearly 1,800 2<sup>nd</sup> graders to nature each school year at Sombrero Marsh in Boulder and at Sandstone Ranch in Longmont. Volunteers and Interns will gain up to 50 hours of mentored teaching experience and are responsible for teaching one of four field trip stations on the following topics: Food, Water, Shelter, or Space. Positions are available from 9:00-2:00pm during 6 weeks of September-October and April-May. Half day positions are also possible. Longmont positions are on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and Boulder positions are on Wednesday, Thursdays, or Fridays. To apply, complete the online application [HERE](#). More details can be found at [www.thornenature.org](http://www.thornenature.org).

**Fall 2017 Dates:**

- Training: Tue 9/12/2017, 4-7pm, Sombrero Marsh in Boulder
- Teaching Season: September 18<sup>th</sup> – December 8<sup>th</sup>. (Excluding Thanksgiving week).

**Spring 2018 Dates:**

- Training: Tue 1/23/2018, 4-7pm, Sombrero Marsh in Boulder
- Teaching Season: January 29<sup>th</sup> – April 27<sup>th</sup>. (Excluding Spring Break week).

**Expectation for All Interns:**

Support the Thorne mission and exhibit a commitment to:

- Working collaboratively, with integrity and respect for fellow interns, Thorne Employees, associates, and our communities,
- Embracing personal responsibility and accountability for your role at Thorne.

**Position Purpose:**

- Field Trip Volunteers and Interns will work collaboratively to provide joyful, hands-on, place-based field trip programs for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Boulder Valley School District students and/or 2<sup>nd</sup> grade St. Vrain School District students.

**Principal Responsibilities:**

- Attend mandatory Volunteer Training at Sombrero Marsh. Training explains Thorne teaching philosophy, organization mission, and the logistics and all four stations of the field trip program.
- Shadow your station during the first week of field trips so you see the program in action.
- Teach at least one 5 hour field trip day per week during the 6-week Fall or Spring Field Trip Season.
- Learn the Field Trip curriculum and skillfully and enthusiastically instruct the station each day you are scheduled to work.
- Participate in introduction and conclusion of program.
- Assist in set-up and cleanup of the program facility.
- Assist with site improvements and maintenance of indoor and outdoor environments.
- Encourage earth stewardship in students through enthusiasm, knowledge, and passion for nature.
- Act as a role model for all students, illustrating appropriate behavior and environmental ethics.
- Encourage a joyful, safe, meaningful outdoor experience for students.
- Optional Additional Responsibilities – Interns looking for more hours and broader experience with Thorne may also:
  - Apply for After-School Program Intern/Volunteer.
  - Apply to Bird Banding Data Entry Volunteer position
  - Volunteer in the office including helping construct student-written books with our In-School Program

**Desired Outcomes:**

- Contribute towards successful delivery of Field Trip Programs and the achievement of Thorne's mission.
- Contribute towards achieving 85% or better positive rating of Field Trip Program's ability to connect students to nature.
- Contribute towards achieving 95% or better positive rating that the field trip was well managed and well organized.
- Contribute towards achieving 95% or better positive rating that teachers will bring their classes back to a field trip in the future.
- Contribute towards Thorne's Core Value of inclusiveness, respecting the perspectives and contributions of all people

**Position Interrelationships:**

- Thorne Staff and Instructors
- Thorne Students
- Thorne Parents and Families
- Volunteers and Interns
- General Public
- Guest Speakers and Community Partners

**Desired Skills and Abilities:**

- Strong communication skills with adults and children
- Good organizational skills and ability to handle multiple tasks and roles, patiently and professionally
- Good knowledge of Colorado ecology and natural science preferred
- Experience relating to and communicating with diverse audiences, especially Mexican American participants preferred
- Bi-lingual in Spanish and English encouraged to apply
- People of Color encouraged to apply

**Desired Behavioral Traits and Attitudes:**

- Team player, fun, outgoing, passionate, organized, creative, resourceful, critical thinker, results-oriented, and self motivated.
- Strong interest in and/or with some experience teaching environmental education in informal settings.
- Passionate about Thorne's mission and environmentally concerned and aware.
- Contribute towards Thorne's Core Value of inclusiveness, respecting the perspectives and contributions of all people

**Minimum Qualifications:**

- Must be 16 or older
- Background check submitted and cleared by the Colorado Department of Human Services (Thorne helps with this)

**Special Requirements:**

- Must commit to working at least 1 day/week for all six weeks of Field Trip season (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday.)
- Must be available from 8:30 to 2:15pm for field trips, set-up, and cleanup on the day(s) you are scheduled to work.
- Must be available for a volunteer training day at Sombrero Marsh.

**Compensation:**

- This is an unpaid Internship or Volunteer position; however, you will complete approximately 50 hours of professional environmental education instruction and training through this internship.
- Thorne Staff is willing to fill out required forms for school credit, act as a reference for Intern, and/or write a letter of recommendation, if needed.
- Successful Volunteers and Interns may have the opportunity to teach for our Summer Programs as paid instructors.

**Inclusiveness Statement:**

- Thorne believes that, to remain relevant as an organization and ensure access to joyful, hands-on, place-based Environmental Education experiences for all youth, its programs, leadership, and participants must reflect the range of diversity, culture, and unique differences in our community.

**Anti-Discrimination Statement:**

- Thorne Nature Experience is an equal opportunity organization. Thorne Nature Experience does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, age, national origin (ancestry), physical or mental disability, marital status, sexual orientation, gender variance or expression, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. This Anti-Discrimination Policy applies to, but is not limited to, hiring and firing of staff, selection of volunteers, selection of Board Members, selection of vendors, and provision of services.