



JOB DESCRIPTION

TITLE: Summer Camp Instructor at Boulder, Lafayette, Longmont, and/or Littleton Camps
STATUS: Seasonal Employee
START DATE: Training May 16-17, 2020, Camp runs May 26-August 14, 2020
HOW TO APPLY: Fill out an online application at:
<https://thorne.campintouch.com/ui/forms/application/staff/App>

Thorne Mission and History:

Thorne Nature Experience is a non-profit organization that is committed to building Earth stewardship by providing youth with joyful, hands-on, place-based environmental education experiences that foster an emotional connection to nature. Thorne believes in discovery, exploration, and a connection to the natural world. Founded in 1954, Thorne has a rich history and has reached more than 300,000 children and adults through its Summer Camp, School Programs, Community Programs, and Nature For All Initiative.

Thorne Summer Camp Program Description:

Thorne Summer Camp has been connecting youth to nature since 1957! Thorne offers weeklong day camps in Boulder, Lafayette, Longmont, and Littleton for youth ages 3-15. Thorne's outdoor "Camp Experiences" inspire exploration in nature and offer just the right mix of fun and hands-on learning.

Job Purpose:

Thorne Summer Camp Instructors plan and lead fun, hands-on, weeklong outdoor day camps that inspire and cultivate nature connection in our campers.

This job is for you if you:

- Are inspired by our mission
- Enjoy engaging with children through outdoor exploration
- Love nature and working outside
- Thrive in a role as a mentor
- Are a highly relational and effective communicator
- Care about equity and diversity
- Enjoy working in a progressive, relational, collaborative, nature loving team of

dedicated and talented individuals

Schedule:

- Staff typically work at multiple locations throughout the season, which runs from May 26-August 14. Most staff work for a total of nine or ten weeks, but it is possible to be scheduled for more weeks or fewer weeks if desired. Camp dates by location listed below.
 - Boulder County:
 - Boulder: May 26-August 14
 - Camps meet at Boulder High School, Chautauqua Park, and Sombrero Marsh Environmental Education Center
 - Lafayette: June 1-5, June 8-12, June 15-19, June 22-26, July 6-10, July 13-17, July 20-24
 - Camps meet at Ryan Elementary School
 - Longmont: May 26-29
 - Camps meet at the Longmont YMCA
 - Littleton (South Denver):
 - June 15-July 17 (skipping June 29-July 3)
 - Camps meet at the Kassler Center (11338 Waterton Rd, Littleton, CO 80125)
- Hours:
 - Approximately 35.5 hours/week, not including time spent on lesson planning since this varies by instructor/camp
 - The camp day runs from 8:30 am-2:30 pm
 - Most locations have the following Instructor schedule:
 - Monday, Wednesday 8:00 am-3:00 pm
 - Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:15 am-3:00 pm
 - Parent communication before each camp: flexible timing, approximately one hour required for parent phone calls before each camp week begins
 - *Camps that meet at Boulder High School have a slightly different Instructor schedule: Monday/Wednesday 7:45 am-2:45 pm, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday 8:00 am-2:45 pm and one hour of parent communication before each camp.*
 - Hours may vary, but this is a general guideline

Position Overview:

Instructors mentor a different group of up to 12 campers from 3-15 years old every week and guide them through engaging activities outdoors, following a specific nature theme for the week. Camp themes include wild nature play, survival skills, nature art, and more! You will be responsible for leading and planning programs that inspire campers' curiosity, build confidence and comfort in nature, facilitate teamwork, and provide knowledge and skills.

Principal Responsibilities:

- Teach up to 12 weeks of Thorne Summer Camp, encouraging earth stewardship in participants through enthusiasm, knowledge, and passion for nature

- Instructors will have one week as a paid on-call Instructor (see “Compensation & Perks” below for more details)
- Use Thorne-developed activities guides to plan and lead engaging Thorne Summer “Camp Experiences”
- Communicate with families of campers through parent/guardian phone calls one week prior to each “Camp Experience” being taught
- Act as a role model for all participants and Volunteer Teaching Assistants
- There are several skills-based Instructor positions, including wilderness survival skills, biking, and fly fishing available. If interested, please indicate that you have experience in these areas on your online application.

Desired Skills and Abilities:

- Passion for outdoor experiences and connecting youth to nature
- Experienced Instructor, especially in an outdoor setting
- Strong communication skills with children and adults
- Good organizational skills and ability to handle multiple tasks and roles, patiently and professionally
- Experience relating to and communicating with diverse audiences, especially Latinx participants and families preferred
- People of Color encouraged to apply
- Bilingual in Spanish and English encouraged to apply

Minimum Qualifications:

- Must be 21 or older
- A minimum of 460 hours of full time or equivalent part-time satisfactory and verifiable experience with school-age children.
 - You must provide letter(s) of recommendation from organizations or businesses in which you have been involved in the care or supervision of four or more children since you have turned 18. The letter(s) must include a summary of your qualifications and the **number of hours you have worked in that position**. Any letters of recommendation must be on company letterhead, and the referee needs to provide their contact information, including an address, phone number, and email address. Please plan to obtain these letters of recommendation before your interview.

Required Trainings & Paperwork:

- **Mandatory Thorne Summer Camp Staff training on May 16-17, 2020**
 - Littleton staff only: Littleton site training on **June 13, 2020 from 10 am-1 pm**
- CPR, First Aid, Standard Precautions, and Medication Administration certified prior to the start of camp
 - **Thorne holds trainings, but does not pay for the time or cost of these certifications**
- Complete all required forms and submit all required information needed by Thorne in compliance with Colorado Department of Human Services Child Care licensing standards, including background check and fingerprints

Compensation & Perks:

- Compensation ranges from \$425-\$505 per “Camp Experience” week and is based on the level of experience/certifications of the Instructor.
 - Required on-call week: staff are paid \$100 to be on-call for the week. If called in to sub during an on-call week, staff are paid an hourly rate that ranges from \$14.00-\$16.83 per hour.
 - This range is used as a guide; however, pay rates are at the full discretion of the Program Manager
- Summer Camp staff also receive deals on gear and discounts with several Thorne partners including a local yoga studio and rock climbing gym

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.

Questions?

Contact Carrie Riesberg, Summer Camp Manager at carrie@thornenature.org

Please see Thorne’s Summer Camp catalog online at www.thornenature.org for more information about our Summer Camp including “Camp Experience” times and descriptions.