



Job Title: After-school Intern/Volunteer

Employer: Thorne Nature Experience; Boulder, CO

Job Status: Part time, Seasonal position. One or more day(s) per week (Monday-Thursday) for 12 weeks of Fall or Spring After School season.

Pay Rate: Unpaid

Reports to: Maggie Vest Engelman, Program Manager – School Programs & Volunteers, Maggie@thornenature.org, 303-499-3647 ext. 103

Application Deadline: Rolling, until filled. Apply ASAP. Interviews will be held in September and January.

Application Process: **To apply, submit a Volunteer Application through Google Forms <https://goo.gl/forms/EaPzvM4CS1fhklb72>.**

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.

After-School Program Description:

The goal of the Thorne's After School program is to connect students to the natural areas in their own backyards and schoolyards. The program has now expanded to include nine schools in two districts. The curriculum focuses on helping students to develop the skills of a naturalist and then use those skills to answer questions about the living things in their schoolyard, their neighborhood, and community around their school. Through exploration, mapping, sketching, plant and animal identification, and the use of nature journals, students will investigate and answer questions about their local ecosystem. These programs currently serve Pioneer, Ryan, and Sanchez Elementary in Lafayette; Rocky Mountain, Columbine, and Timberline Elementary in Longmont; Columbine and University Hill Elementary in Boulder; and Emerald Elementary in Broomfield.

Principal Responsibilities:

- Attend all scheduled program dates
- Support Thorne Instructors by assisting in leading and facilitating After School Programs with the guidance of Thorne staff;
- Assist with program logistics: taking photos/video, managing students and materials;

- Act as a role model for students and teachers, illustrating appropriate behavior and environmental ethics;
- Encourage joyful, safe, meaningful, nature-based experiences for students;
- Complete all required forms and submit all required information needed by Thorne Nature Experience and/or the relevant school district.

Desired Skills and Abilities:

- Strong communication skills with adults and children
- Team player, fun, outgoing, passionate, organized, creative, resourceful, critical thinker, results-oriented, and self motivated.
- Good knowledge of Colorado ecology and natural science preferred
- Passionate about Thorne's mission and environmentally concerned and aware.
- 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

Minimum Qualifications:

- Must be 16 or older.
- Background check submitted and cleared by the Colorado Department of Human Services (Thorne pays for this).
- Must commit to working at least 2 hours/week (2:30-4:30pm or 3:30-5:00pm) for entire season (September-December; February-May)
- Attend a volunteer training day at Sombrero Marsh.

Compensation:

- This is an unpaid Volunteer Position or Internship; however, you will complete 24 or more documented hours of professional environmental education experience through this position;
- 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 desired.
- 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.