



Job Title: After Care Nature Preschool Teaching Volunteer
Reports to: Site Instructors
Preschool Manager, Lorene Wapotich, lorene@thornenature.org
Volunteer Manager, Sarah Grove, sarah@thornenature.org
Job Status: Part time, Volunteer or Internship

Job Purpose: Thorne Nature Experience is seeking dedicated volunteers and interns who will support the Thorne Nature Preschool, a partial day, nature-based program that aims to both support early childhood development and foster deep nature connection. This role directly supports nine preschool students during After Care which follows the morning preschool day.

Program Details:

- To apply, submit a [Volunteer Application](#) through Google Forms
- Dates of Program: Spring: January – May, Summer: June – August, Fall: September-December
- Days of the Week: Monday-Friday
- Hours: 12:45pm – 4:35pm
- Location: Arts HUB 420 Courtney Way, Lafayette, CO 80026 & Coal Creek

Principal Responsibilities:

- Attend mandatory training at Sombrero Marsh. Training explains Thorne Teaching Philosophy, organization mission, and the logistics of the program
- Assist in set-up and clean-up of the program facilities and places
- Support with daily operations (i.e. participate in closing circle, gathering materials, support nature connection, encourage wild nature play, reading stories, etc.)
- Support with creative activities and lessons

Special Requirements:

- Having reliable transportation

Desired Skills and Abilities:

- Bilingual in Spanish and English
- Strong communication skills with adults and children
- Highly relational
- Teaching in an informal setting

Desired Outcomes:

- Become familiar with the personnel and students
- Role model outdoor exploration
- Continued bond with nature connection and space-based learning

Job Interrelationships:

- Children; ages 3-6 years old
- Thorne Staff, Preschool Instructors
- Other Volunteers and Interns

Desired Behavioral Traits and Attitudes:

- Team player, fun, outgoing, passionate, organized, creative, and self-motivated
- Strong nature connection
- Positive attitude

Minimum Qualifications:

- We are looking for a candidate that is comfortable working outdoors in all weather conditions (including rain, snow, and hot sunny days)
- Can commit to one day of week for the semester, or full school year.

Working Conditions: This role requires a physical ability to perform tasks in an outdoor environment in all weather conditions including lifting, standing for long periods, walking on rough terrain, and kneeling. Work takes place in both an office setting and field setting with continuous interruptions and background noises.

Accommodations: Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable qualified individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions of this position.

The expectation for All Employees: Support the Thorne mission and exhibit a commitment to working collaboratively, with integrity and respect for fellow employees, associates, and our communities. Embracing personal responsibility and accountability for your job.

Equitable Recruiting Policy Statement: Our goal is to increase diversity amongst our staff at Thorne. We do so by providing equal employment opportunities without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation or any other protected characteristic. It is the policy at Thorne to attempt to reach diverse pools of applicants throughout the hiring process by following the Equitable Recruiting Procedure.

Thorne Mission and History: Thorne Nature Experience is a non-profit organization committed to building Earth stewardship by connecting youth to nature through joyful, hands-on, place-

based environmental education experiences. Founded in 1954, Thorne has a rich history and has reached more than 250,000 children and adults through its three programs: Summer Camp, In-School Program, and Field Trip Program.