



**Job Title:** After School Teaching Volunteer  
**Reports to:** Lead Teacher  
Volunteer Manager, Sarah Grove, sarah@thornenature.org  
**Job Status:** Part time, Volunteer or Internship

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**Job Purpose:** Thorne Nature Experience is seeking dedicated volunteers and interns who will support the Thorne After School Program. 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 school 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.

**Program Details:**

- To apply, submit a [Volunteer Application](#) through Google Forms
- Dates of Program: Spring: February – May, Fall: September – December
- Days of the Week: Monday-Thursday
- Hours: 2:45pm-5:00pm
- Locations:
  - Lafayette, Colorado: Pioneer Elementary, Ryan Elementary, and Sanchez Elementary
  - Longmont, Colorado: Rocky Mountain Elementary, Columbine Elementary, and Timberline Elementary
  - Boulder, Colorado: Columbine Elementary and University Hill Elementary
  - Broomfield, Colorado: Emerald Elementary

**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 opening and closing circle, gathering materials, support nature connection)
- Support with creative activities and lessons
- Assist with program logistics (i.e. taking photos/video, managing students)

**Special Requirements:**

- Must be 16 years or older
- Having reliable transportation to school locations

**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 5-11 years old
- Thorne Staff, 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.