



Summer Safari Educator Description

General Summary

Summer Safari educators are responsible for developing and implementing a safe, engaging and educational week-long summer program for children having completed kindergarten through eighth grade. The curriculum will be based on topics relating to natural sciences (conservation, animal science and husbandry, ecology and zoology) with the purpose of promoting the understanding and conservation of the natural in which we live.

This is a seasonal position of 22.5 hours per week with the opportunity to teach up to 2, 1-week programs. Summer Safari runs from June 1st – June 26th and serves roughly 300 campers. Campers are divided into groups based on grade levels (Kindergarten, First/Second Grade, Third/Fourth Grade, Fifth/ Sixth Grade, and Seventh/Eighth Grade), and each group has one teacher and one teacher aide in addition to possible volunteers. The teacher to student ratio is 1:20 (1:15 for Kindergarten). This position requires a high level of enthusiasm and energy, creativity, flexibility, and the ability to work with groups of all ages in both in and outdoor settings.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 27, 2026

Primary Duties and Responsibilities

- Program facilitation and preparation: plans, teaches in assigned classrooms and other in-zoo sites used in camp programs.
- Engage in creative, age-appropriate and responsibly managed activities with campers.
- Provide Education Curator with your lesson plan for approval at least two weeks prior to your class.
- Responsible for maintaining a safe, well managed camp group experience.

- Communicate effectively and consistently with staff and parents of campers.
- Inform Education Curator or other Supervisor on duty if any emergencies arise.
- Interact in a positive and educational way with all Zoo guests, including campers, parents and siblings of campers, and general Zoo guests.
- Abide by all Alexandria Zoo policies and procedures, including safety protocol and wearing appropriate Zoo uniform.
- Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications

- Must be at least 18 years of age.
- Completion of at least two years of college coursework in pursuit of a Bachelor's degree in Education, Environmental Science, Zoology, Biology, or related field required.
- Previous teaching or interpretation experience in a zoo, nature center, or other informal or formal educational setting is preferred
- Excellent classroom management skills.
- Minimum commitment of one week (Monday through Friday) from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Attendance at Summer Safari Educator Orientation required.
 - **May 28th 1pm- 4 pm**
- Experience working with a variety of ages and group sizes, and teaches a range of class styles.
- Able to work cooperatively with staff and volunteers.
- Interest and passion for conservation, biological diversity, conservation education, and the natural world.
- Candidates should be enthusiastic, creative, and self-motivated. This position requires considerable flexibility and patience.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills.

Work Environment

Exposure to outdoor weather conditions such as heat, humidity, and rain will be required.

Physical Demands

- Able to remain on feet and walk for extended periods of time.
- Frequently bend, stoop, reach, lift heavy objects, and climb.

Supervision

The position reports directly to the Education Curator.

Salary

Summer Safari Educators will receive \$400 per teaching week.

Applying

Send completed application to...

Email:

Catie.hirsh@cityofalex.com

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Alexandria Zoological Park

"Promoting understanding and conservation of the natural world in which we live"