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**CASUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY  
NATURE EDUCATOR**

**OVERVIEW OF JOB**

Earth Path is a non-profit organization based in the Ottawa region, dedicated to fostering meaningful relationships between people and the natural world. Since 2013 we have offered programs for people of all ages, including nature school programs for children, field walks for adults, and workshops for teachers, aiming to support the growth of healthy, whole communities.

Earth Path nature educators are the heart of our organization and community. As an educator with a casual employment position you will replace regular staff when they are unable to attend their scheduled shifts. During this time, you will share your gifts with kids and families by co-facilitating our nature school programs for youth at Just Food Farm/Green's Creek natural area in east Ottawa beginning February 2020, or as soon as possible. Earth Path aims to develop a supply list, so several applicants may be selected for this opportunity.

Programs vary in duration from 3 to 6 hours, and staff are paid an hour extra for each program- 0.5 hr of this is for class planning with other staff before the program starts, and 0.5 hr is for the end-of-program debrief when staff discuss observations and lessons learned from the day. Casual Nature Educators may be contacted weeks in advance or the morning of the day in which their assistance is needed.

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Co-facilitate Earth Path's nature school programs for children ages 4-6 and 6-14. Lead engaging activities (may include games and stories), with a focus on fostering the children's nature connection and environmental stewardship, nurturing curiosity and creativity, supporting their positive social/emotional/physical development, developing an understanding of local ecology; and building wilderness skills;
- Maintain an inclusive, supportive, and safe space for all participants;
- Assist children with meeting their physical needs, such as bathrooming, dealing with cold weather and other complaints they might have;
- Engage with parents during drop-off and pick-up, as needed;
- Debrief with Earth Path colleagues at the end of each day, tracking children's growth and challenges that would be beneficial to discuss as a group.
- Report any incidents of concern (safety, harassment);
- Attend staff meetings (conference call), as needed;
- Show up on time and prepared, 30 mins before program start time;
- Be part of Earth Path's culture of feedback: open to giving, receiving, and integrating feedback from colleagues and participants, and confronting challenges/conflict in a respectful, caring way;

**PREFERRED SKILLS/QUALIFICATIONS**

- Ideally you have some training in education or the natural sciences, but not required;
- Basic knowledge of local flora and fauna (preferred but not required), and have an interest in learning some teachable wilderness skills (e.g. whittling, cordage-making, shelter-building, or fire-building);

- Experience working with children in a creative, engaging way that nurtures their hands, hearts, and minds;
- Highly attuned to children's social/emotional needs and understand their stages of development;
- Safety aware and keenly observant- able to assess and manage risk in an outdoor environment;
- Open to learning, sharing ideas, and receiving feedback;
- Resourceful and adaptable, with a good sense of humour and fun;
- Excellent communication skills to maintain good relations with parents, community members, colleagues, and partner organizations.

#### **SPECIFICATIONS**

- Valid Vulnerable Sector Check from the Ottawa Police Service is required before contract start;
- Valid Standard First Aid and CPR certification required prior to contract start.

#### **CONTRACT TERM AND LOCATION**

Start Date: February 3, 2020

End Date: Ongoing/open-ended

Pay Rate: \$18-20 (rate will be determined based on experience)

Work Location: Just Food Farm/Green's Creek natural area, 2391 Pepin Court, Gloucester (east Ottawa)

**TO APPLY:** If interested in joining our team, please send your 1pg cover letter and resume to Bryarly McEachern at [jobs@EarthPath.ca](mailto:jobs@EarthPath.ca) **ASAP**. Applications will be considered as they are received, until we have added several nature educators to our supply list. Contact us at 613-858-8822 if you have questions. We thank all those who apply; however, only those selected for further consideration will be contacted.