

## Early Childhood Educator/Assistant – Early Explorers

(Full-time)

Are you an **enthusiastic, dedicated, motivated, and energetic Early Childhood Educator or Early Childhood Educator Assistant** who loves the outdoors? Are you looking to gain experience in a unique and exciting learning environment, helping develop and deliver an innovative new program for early learners? Are you ready to work with a strong team in a fun, fast-paced, flexible environment?

Reporting to the Manager – Integrated Learning, The Exploration Place's Early Childhood Educator/Assistant(s) will educate children aged 2.5 to 5 in the Early Explorers nature-based outdoor learning program. Ensuring that the program's daily operations run effectively and efficiently, the ECE or ECEA will develop and deliver quality, child-centered, **100% outdoor programming** with a curriculum enriched in the areas of nature and science, as well as social-emotional learning and kindergarten readiness.

<b>Anticipated start date:</b>	February 15, 2021
<b>Terms of employment:</b>	Full-time; Permanent
<b>Salary:</b>	\$18-\$20/hour; commensurate with experience
<b>Hours of work:</b>	Monday to Friday; 40 hours/week; 8 hours/day; occasional weekends and evenings as required
<b>Application deadline:</b>	Until a suitable candidate(s) is selected
<b>Number of positions:</b>	2

### **Position and Benefits:**

This is a permanent, full-time, year-round position—40 hours/week, Monday to Friday, 8 hrs/day with a 30-minute unpaid lunch break. After a 3-month probationary period, benefits include two weeks' vacation accrual, sick leave accrual, full extended health and dental benefits, paid professional development, and an Exploration Place family membership.

### **Responsibilities:**

- You will educate and care for up to 10 children between the ages of two-and-a-half and five years old in four streams of an entirely outdoor, nature-based program running from April to November. This pilot program aims to enrich early learners' experiences, using nature as a venue for play and exploration, strengthening the connection between children and the natural world.
- Educators will lead children in daily activities in an engaging and safe outdoor environment for 3-8 hours each day.
- This program will run in all types of weather. Children and their educators will be required to dress appropriately for the weather and be prepared to participate fully—rain, mud, snow, or shine!
- Educators will ensure the health and safety of children in the program while encouraging reasonable and safe risk-taking.
- Educators will plan, organize, and lead a developmentally-appropriate and responsive nature play-based curriculum with a focus on STEAM content.
- Educators will incorporate children in the care and maintenance of the Explorers Urban Garden.
- Educators will adhere to all The Exploration Place's Integrated Learning Policies and Procedures.

- Educators will develop respectful, professional, and nurturing relationships with staff, children, and families. You will correspond with families in person, on the telephone, through email, and with monthly newsletter publications. Educators will respond to any minor complaints and concerns from families calmly and respectfully.
- Educators are responsible for maintaining and keeping accurate, up-to-date records of attendance, child files, and daily logs.
- Educators will be responsible for the care and maintenance of all program supplies and equipment.
- Educators must complete all prescribed health, housekeeping, cleaning, and sanitizing duties, as required by The Exploration Place's Integrated Learning policies.
- Educators must be prepared to assist in all museum departments, programming, and events as required, particularly from November to April when Early Explorers is not in session. **Flexibility is a must.**

**Requirements:**

The successful candidate(s):

- **Must** be a fully certified Early Childhood Educator or Early Childhood Educator Assistant, possessing a valid Early Childhood Educator (ECE) or Early Childhood Educator Assistant (ECEA) Certificate.
- Have previous experience working with preschool-aged children.
- Be comfortable in the outdoors, with a willingness to understand that children will come to the program with a variety of backgrounds, experiences, and comfort levels with the outdoors. Successful candidates will be sensitive to each child's needs, helping them positively and successfully connect with nature and learning in a natural environment. You should have a passion for the outdoors and a willingness to share this passion with the children in your care.
- Have experience in curriculum development.
- Possess strong oral and written communication skills.
- Be a self-motivated team player.
- Must possess excellent time management and multi-tasking skills; accomplishing tasks with limited administrative time.
- Have the ability to work closely with and communicate respectfully with your fellow educator and The Exploration Place team at large.
- Be willing to take on responsibilities in all museum departments as required.
- Be willing to submit to and pass a criminal record check.
- Have at least 3 professional references.
- Have, or be willing to obtain, a valid first-aid certificate and CPR certification.

**Desirable Qualifications:**

- Completion of at least one year of post-secondary education in science, heritage, technology, or education.

**Please email a resume, cover letter, and three references to:**

Robyn Curtis, Manager – Integrated Learning

[robyn@theexplorationplace.com](mailto:robyn@theexplorationplace.com)