



Audubon Society of Rhode Island

Special Education Environmental Educator Job Description

Job Title: Special Education Environmental Educator

Location: Various locations throughout RI and southeastern MA

Job Type: Non-exempt, per diem, no benefits

Reports To: Senior Director of Education

Salary: \$20.00 - \$25.00 per hour

Taking Root: Nature-Based Learning for All is an Audubon RI learning initiative started in 2022. It is dedicated to designing engaging and accessible environmental education programs for students and adults with disabilities throughout the state of Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts. Audubon's Special Education Educator works closely with schools and organizations to create programs that meet the needs of their students and participants. Groups can choose to visit the Nature Center in Bristol or one of Audubon's wildlife refuges. They can also choose to have Audubon come to their facility and bring hands-on materials or live animal ambassadors.

Responsibilities:

- Coordinate *Taking Root: Nature-based learning for all* programming by working closely with teachers and caregivers to ensure Audubon presentations are engaging and appropriate for each audience.
- Modify Audubon programs as needed for each audience and facilitate programs with support from other Audubon educators.
- Provide support for other Audubon programs that include students with special needs.
- Keep a record of program modifications and notes on successes and challenges of working with each group.
- Teach programs on natural history and environmental topics in a wide variety of settings, such as classrooms, Audubon wildlife refuges, after school and summer settings and libraries.
- Work with animals used in education programs as necessary (raptors, reptiles, amphibians & arthropods).
- Participate in education department trainings and meetings when required.
- Serve as a liaison between the education community and the Audubon Society.
- Remain informed about professional practices for working with people with disabilities, as well as about current natural history and environmental issues.
- Keep program props, specimens and resource materials in good working order.
- Report income and program statistics to program registrar.
- Miscellaneous other duties and responsibilities as assigned.

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A successful candidate will have the following qualifications:

- A Bachelor's degree in education with a focus in special education and some experience working in the field with children and/or adults.
- Experience working with children - a variety of ages and diverse backgrounds.
- Willingness to work outdoors despite sunny, hot and/or rainy conditions.
- Experience working with animals a plus.
- Effective communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to work in teams as well as independently.
- Availability required for at least 2 days per week between 9 am – 2 pm.
- Reliable transportation and valid driver's license.
- Current First Aid and CPR certification (or ability to acquire certification).

Please note:

- Outdoor field explorations involve walking a distance along uneven ground, carrying a backpack and exploration tools such as buckets and nets.
- Successful candidates must undergo and pass a background check, conducted consistent with applicable law, upon hire.

The Audubon Society of Rhode Island is an equal opportunity employer. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, age, disability, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by applicable law.

To apply for this position, please send a cover letter and resume to careers@asri.org with the subject line "Special Education position". If you have questions regarding the position before applying, please use the same email and subject line.

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