

Aquarium Maintenance Technician for Children's Nature Academy at The Priory

Community Partner: UWEC Children's Nature Academy

Status: Approved

Hours: 30

Ongoing need: Yes

Number of Students: 1-2

Compensated: No

Mission Statement: The mission of the Bluebird Experience is to create, motivate, and inspire people on how to become a citizen scientist, when they connect with nature and use technology effectively. Bluebird Experience fosters learning and academic excellence, by working with scientists, educators, and nature enthusiasts to restore songbirds and habitat, to create a sustainable, fulfilling, and academically enriching environment for our community and for science.

Service: The Children's Nature Academy is in need of a student who can manage the aquarium, and create an indoor classroom, to teach the students. Their duties include feeding the fish in the aquarium, cleaning the fish tank monthly, as well as purchasing new fish, food, and chemicals as needed. The aquarium maintenance technician will also be in charge of creating index cards of various fish living in the aquarium. The index cards will include a picture and brief description of each fish (what they eat, where they live, etc.). Service learning opportunity will focus on developing toddler-5th grade curriculum, while working with the assigned Children's Nature Academy teacher/liaison (Nancy Ryba) to create a living classroom experience.

Objectives: To create an ongoing living and learning, hands-on station at the Children's Nature Academy. Work together and collaborate with a Children's Nature Academy teacher (Nancy Ryba), in order to maintain a healthy habitat for fish, while giving children an up close view of nature. Take the existing habitat and resources, and teach staff and children the magic in restoring and creating a thriving living classroom environment.

Skills: Personal accountability, good communication, outgoing personality, enjoys nature, enjoys working with young children, creative, team player, self-motivated, organized

Availability Requirements: The student will work with the Children's Nature Academy teacher (Nancy Ryba), in order to develop a routine schedule, and meet goals within 15-30 hours of service.

Additional Information: This project would be ideal for those interested in creating a curriculum based around marine biology/ecology, and adding value to the Children's Nature Academy indoor classroom experience.

