

## Seedlings Early Childhood Teacher

**POSITION:** PreK Lead/ Co Educator



**Genesee  
Valley**  
outdoor learning center

**ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION:** Located just thirty minutes north of Baltimore, Genesee Valley is home to 120+ acres of lakes, woods and farmland used for adventure, environmental and experiential education programs. The Seedling Program provides learning opportunities 5 days a week for children ages 3-5. We also offer one to multiple-day programs for a diverse clientele, which include public and independent schools, college organizations, community groups, youth development programs, special needs populations, and adult non-profit organizations and for-profit corporations.

**ORGANIZATION TYPE:** Non-Profit, Experiential/Outdoor Education

**TYPE OF POSITION:** Full Time or Part Time

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** Lead teacher works closely with a co-teacher and children to facilitate outdoor classes with children.

- Tasks include thoughtful curriculum design based on children's emergent interests, on-going reflection about and assessment of children and the forest school program, and collaboration with other teachers and/or volunteers. Lead teacher will manage support staff and/or volunteers as needed. Lead teachers set the tone for learning as engaged, enthusiastic role models of nature-based education while maintaining a safe, positive atmosphere.
- This position requires a blend of qualifications that span having sound knowledge about early childhood education as well as nature-based pedagogy. Candidates should possess curiosity, if not deep understanding, of the local ecosystem with a commitment to helping young children develop their ecological identities through inquiry and play.
- Position requires personal and programmatic reflection, collaboration with teachers and parents, open dialogue about children's progress, and interfacing with Genesee Valley partners and residents.
- Position may also include writing content, providing data, or other supplemental information to assist in the grant-writing process. Specific targets and goals for grant tracking and evaluation may also be required. Students tracked progress.

**Collaborative duties with fellow staff:**

- Document learning processes in many formats (written documentation, photos, videos, content for blog/FB posts, Instagram, etc.).
- Provide positive guidance to children in navigating their social interactions with peers and adults.
- Maintain friendly yet professional interpersonal communication skills with children, families, fellow staff and volunteers.
- Participate in staff meetings and on-going professional development. Implement and support community events (IE. Open Houses) for prospective families and stakeholders.

**Essential Experience & Education**

- Possess or in pursuit of bachelor's degree in nature-based early childhood education, environmental studies, outdoor education, natural history, biology, elementary education, psychology or closely related field

- Minimum of two years of experience leading education programs, emergent outdoor learning approaches (preferred)
- Hold valid credentials to work in an MSDE-licensed preschool program (90-hour certificate)\* or working toward certification
- Possess the following credentials, certifications, or licenses: Current first aid and CPR credentials (Wilderness First Responder preferred)
- Must pass background check, child abuse clearances, and drug test before starting employment
- Experience working with young children as appropriate for the classes you will teach
- Physically able to hike, carry gear, and carry a small child if needed (up to 50 lbs)
- Naturalist background with knowledge of local ecology, flora, and fauna; Master Gardener or Master Naturalist certification (not required but preferred)

\*The 90-hour certificate is made up of two 45-hour courses: one called Human Growth/Child Development and one called Curriculum Development/Materials and Methods (offered in person and online). Please indicate if you have or are pursuing this qualification; some teachers take these when they begin work with us. These are required to work in our forest preschool.

Classes are entirely outdoors, so you must be experienced and eager to facilitate outdoor learning in all seasons.

**Most Desirable Qualities:**

- Love of children
- Love of nature
- A strong work ethic with a track record of being reliable, honest, and kind
- Ability to laugh, remain calm, and persevere when faced with challenges
- Patient, positive disposition
- Eager to grow and learn with others

**Additional Skills & Training**

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Proficient in Google Chrome programs including Google Docs, Google Sheets, and Google Slides.
- Proficient use of social media platforms including Instagram, Canva, and FaceBook
- Excited to lead outdoor programs in all kinds of weather
- Flexible mindset and positive attitude
- Ability to work collaboratively as part of a team

**Compensation**

Full time - \$110-120 per day, varies based on experience and qualifications

Part time - \$100 - 110 per day, varies based on experience and qualifications

**Other:** onsite housing optional, access to Genesee Property with permission of General Manager, great community, education/ human development knowledge gained, option to join Movement Climbing Gym membership and so much more!