



## Education Program Instructor Job Posting

Roger Williams Park Zoo (RWPZ) of Providence, Rhode Island, is one of the nation's oldest zoos, exhibiting over 100 animal species. Our culture is built on our core values -community, fun, innovation, diversity, integrity, sustainability, and excellence. We value our role in the community as a treasured place for families and a trusted resource for learning; we create a sense of community for our staff and contribute to the global conservation community. We provide a fun experience for our guests and believe that a fun environment is essential to create a great workplace. We are willing to take risks, to propose novel ideas and to think "out of the box". Bold dreams are welcome here. We act with respect toward all, and we value diversity. Integrity and honesty drive our business practices and our relationships with each other and our constituents. We are driven by our vision of greater sustainability in our environmental practices and in our business model. We believe that by establishing a sustainable financial base we can best achieve our goals. We are always striving for excellence. We work to exceed expectations in all areas.

RWPZ is currently recruiting a part-time, year-round, non-exempt Education Program Instructor. Under the general direction and supervision of the Manager of School Programs, the Education Programs Instructor is primarily responsible for facilitating School, Community, Family, and Interpretive Programs

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **Instructor Responsibilities:**

- Facilitate:
  - afterschool programs at other sites.
  - school programs both on and off Zoo grounds.
  - community outreach programs both on and off grounds to a variety of audiences including, but not limited to, scout groups, camp groups, home school groups, and other community organizations.
  - a variety of family programs including, but not limited to, Breakfast with the Animals, Insider Tours, and Wild Connections encounters.

- at least one Snore and Roar Overnight program per week (Friday and Saturday nights, 5 pm-10 pm February – June and September – November).
- Provide support for Winter, Spring, Holiday, and Summer ZooCamp in a variety of capacities including, but not limited to, acting as a ZooCamp counselor, facilitating aftercare and/or animal encounters, as needed.
- Driving Zoo motor vehicles to programs and operating the motor vehicle in a safe manner.

### **Curriculum Responsibilities**

- Work with Manager of School Programs and School Program Specialists to plan afterschool programming.

### **Animal Handling Presentation Responsibilities**

- Be proficient in all aspects of the presentation of Ambassador Animals as gleaned through the completion of RWPZ Ambassador Animal training components.
- Transport animal carriers and program supplies to and from vehicles and throughout the Zoo.

### **Other functions and responsibilities (Non-Essential/Marginal Functions)**

- Support both the mission of the Zoo and the related mission of the Education Department by performing other duties as assigned by the Education Managers and/or the Director of Education.

### **Required Experience, Training, and/or Education**

#### *Required Experience and Education:*

We will consider various combinations of relevant experience and education providing they meet the minimum requirements of demonstrating the following:

- experience in non-formal science and conservation education program facilitation
- an understanding of educational pedagogy, lesson design, learning psychology, and child development
- an understanding of key areas of work including, special education, informal learning, outdoor education, science education, or developmental psychology.

#### *Preferred Experience and Education:*

- Previous customer service experience, particularly in a zoo or aquarium setting.
- Experience working with diverse populations and fluency in speaking additional languages.
- Experience and comfort handling animals weighing up to 15 pounds in a Zoo or Aquarium setting.
- certification in CPR and First Aid Training.
- Recent experience working with diverse populations and fluency speaking additional languages.

### **Competencies**

- Ability to effectively:
  - work both independently and with a team.
  - work with children and adults of all ages and learning abilities.

- o identify and respond to signs of stress in a variety of animals including mammals, reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates, and various types of birds, including but not limited to raptors, macaws, waterfowl, and galliforms.
  - o function in a professional environment, demonstrating responsibility, creative problem-solving
  - o maintain effective working relationships.
  - o facilitate programs independently and with co-facilitators.
  - o listen actively and always respond in a respectful tone.
  - o build trust through regular open and honest communication.
  - o create a work environment of inclusiveness, welcoming others' suggestions and points of view.
  - o establish priorities, manage time, and organize resources effectively.
  - o meet deadlines.
  - o work safely and follow established safety standards.
  - o manage time to plan and implement programs.
  - o quickly and thoughtfully respond to animal, animal-related human, and human health emergencies.
- Must demonstrate proficiency working with:
    - o a variety of animals including mammals, reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates, and various types of birds.
    - o animals while simultaneously engaging with the public.
    - o speaking in front of large groups of people.
    - o Microsoft Office (primarily Excel, Word & Outlook).
  - Must possess:
    - o an appreciation for informal, lifelong, learning in agreement with Roger Williams Park Zoo's mission and commitment to education and conservation.
    - o high level of patience.
    - o classroom management and behavior management skills.
    - o strong communication skills; verbal and written.

### **Additional Requirements**

- Successful completion of a background check.
- Valid driver's license.
- Availability to work weekends, evenings, and holidays (up to 28 hours per week, however, hours may not be available every week).
- Be comfortable working outdoors and in adverse conditions (heat, rain, cold, etc.).
- Occasional travel via all modes of transportation.
- Frequently requires handling moving animals, which may weigh up to 15 pounds for 30-minute intervals.
- Frequently lifts and/or moves stationary items such as animal carriers up to 30 pounds for 30-minute intervals.
- Comfortable in loud, high-energy environments.

**Supervisory Responsibilities:**

- Not Applicable

As an Education Program Instructor, you will be joining our team in showcasing our Zoo pride and excellence in customer service.

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If you are interested in this exciting opportunity to be a team member at a well-renowned Zoo in the New England area, send a cover letter, resume, and salary requirements to:

Roger Williams Park Zoo  
**ATTN: Education Program Instructor**  
1000 Elmwood Ave  
Providence, RI 02907

-or-

*employment@rwpzoo.org*



ACCREDITED BY THE  
**ASSOCIATION  
OF ZOOS &  
AQUARIUMS**



[rwpzoo.org](http://rwpzoo.org)

