



Audubon Society of Rhode Island

Public Program Educator

Job Title: Public Program Educator

Location: Audubon Nature Center and Aquarium, Bristol, RI

Job Type: Full-Time, Exempt

Reports To: Director, Audubon Nature Center and Aquarium

Salary: \$40,000-\$45,000

Summary of Position:

The Public Program Educator is responsible for delivering environmental education programs to a broad range of audiences, including children and adults, in a variety of settings such as classrooms, nature refuges, libraries, and the Audubon Nature Center and Aquarium in Bristol, RI. The role involves developing, teaching, and managing educational initiatives while fostering a commitment to environmental conservation. This position works closely with staff, senior management, volunteers, board members, donors, and the general public. The Public Program Educator reports to the Director of the Nature Center and Aquarium.

As an ambassador for the Audubon Society of Rhode Island (ASRI), this individual will promote the organization's mission and values while helping to create a positive, philanthropic work culture.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Present and teach educational programs on natural history and environmental topics to visitors of all ages (3 to adult).
- Develop public program curriculum for both children and adults at the Nature Center and Aquarium, including birthday parties, preschool programs, school vacation programs, homeschool groups, special events, and adult-focused initiatives.
- Oversee all aspects of birthday party programming at the Center, including registration, scheduling, and leading activities.
- Work with and care for educational animals, including reptiles, arthropods, raptors, and marine invertebrates.
- Manage and direct educational volunteers, Community Service volunteers, and interns.
- Serve as a liaison for ASRI within the education community and with members, visitors, and the general public.
- Assist in the development of interpretive graphics and interactive displays for the Nature Center and Aquarium.
- Help create and maintain activities for the children's play area and curiosity corner within the Nature Center and Aquarium.

- Stay informed on current environmental issues, natural history, and relevant educational strategies.
- Maintain and organize educational props, specimens, and educational resources.
- Assist with special events and educational initiatives across the organization.
- Assist in animal care, feeding, and maintenance of habitats.
- Maintain a professional appearance and demeanor.
- Perform other duties as assigned by supervisors.

Knowledge, Skills, and Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in a natural science, environmental education, or a related field.
- Experience working with children in educational settings.
- Experience working with live education animals preferred
- Skilled in curriculum development for a variety of audiences (children, adults, families).
- Strong communication and public speaking abilities.
- Self-motivated, with the ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Availability to work nights, weekends, and some holidays.
- Proficient in MS Office or similar software with the ability to use advanced features such as email and internet navigation.
- Strong organizational and administrative skills.
- Must be reliable, responsible, and able to collaborate effectively with others.

Complexity and Problem Solving:

- Ability to analyze situations, research solutions, and evaluate alternatives.
- Tasks are typically performed according to established practices, though flexibility is required in adapting to changing conditions.
- Recognize and address problems, acting as a resource to resolve issues within the team.

Discretion and Decision Making:

- Duties are performed with general supervision and within established guidelines.
- Must exercise judgment and maintain decorum when working with children, as required by child protection laws (background check required).
- Demonstrate common sense, flexibility, and teamwork when overseeing interns, volunteers, and other staff.
- Refer difficult or unusual questions to the supervisor for further guidance.

Communication and Interpersonal Contacts:

- Communicate clearly and effectively with a variety of stakeholders, including staff, volunteers, board members, donors, educators, and the general public.
- Maintain a professional, positive, and approachable attitude while handling sensitive or confidential information.

Responsibility and Oversight:

- Supervise and direct volunteers, interns, and temporary staff as needed.
- Purchase supplies as required by the program's budget and in consultation with the supervisor.
- Align work with the program's strategic goals and priorities.

Working Conditions/Physical Effort:

- This position requires 35 hours of work per week at the Nature Center and Aquarium. The work schedule will be Tuesday through Saturday with flexible hours based on program needs. Must be available for Saturdays, occasional evenings, and Monday holidays.
- Work environment requires the ability and willingness to work outdoors in all weather conditions.
- Physical exertion may be required, including lifting up to 35 pounds and assisting with animal care.
- Must be comfortable working with animals and helping with animal feeding and care.

To Apply:

Audubon is committed to representing Rhode Island's diversity in our staff, volunteers, boards, and membership and creating a positive, inclusive workplace culture where all can thrive. We encourage anyone who is interested in this role to apply, regardless of whether you think you meet all the qualifications. The top candidates will have their own unique perspectives, experiences, and backgrounds.

The position offers comprehensive healthcare, paid leave, a 401(K) retirement plan, professional growth opportunities, and a supportive community that values your contributions.

Please send one PDF attachment including:

1. A cover letter expressing why you are a candidate for this position, your commitment to protecting nature, and how this position aligns with your professional career goals.
2. A resume.

Email your application to careers@asri.org with the subject line: "Public Program Educator."

As an equal opportunity employer, all applicants are considered regardless of race, color, religion, gender, age, national origin, military status, veteran status, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by law.