



Montana Natural History Center

Connecting People with Nature

120 Hickory Street
Missoula, MT 59801
406.327.0405

www.MontanaNaturalist.org



Position Title:	Summer Instructor
Position Category:	Full-Time, Seasonal (40 hours/week)
Salary:	\$14.00/hour
Duration:	June 7th – August 13th, 2021

WHO ARE WE?

The Montana Natural History Center builds on a collection of shared values in our center and community. Nature-based education inspires connection to the outdoors, a love for the natural world, and in turn, inspired stewardship. Our full mission statement is to *promote and cultivate the appreciation, understanding, and stewardship of nature through education*. To achieve this mission, MNHC offers a wide range of programming to both children and adults in Missoula and western Montana:

- Visiting Naturalists deliver innovative, engaging curriculum for 4th-5th graders in the classroom and in local natural areas throughout the school year.
- State provider for the Montana Master Naturalist program, delivering courses in Montana flora and fauna throughout the year.
- Display interpretive museum exhibits and gardens on the natural history of Montana.
- Teach distance learning programs for youth in school settings, adult classes, and lectures.
- Teach adult classes on nature writing and natural history topics and lead guided walks and tours in the outdoors.
- Run exciting Homeschool and Summer Camp programs for youth in grades K - 8
- Publication of Montana Naturalist magazine.

Here at MNHC, connecting to nature is not a luxury, but a necessity. We strive to build capacity and fundraise. Doing so enables us to help serve all Montanans in our region and engage our large community in MNHC programs.

WHO ARE YOU?

We value the benefits a diverse staff can bring to our organization. Whether you're an urbanite or mountain connoisseur from the east coast, west coast, North Pole or Mars, you'll fit right in. Though we come from all sorts of places, our MNHC family is bonded by a deep commitment to our mission.

ABOUT MISSOULA

Missoula is a serene mountain town tucked away in the Northern Rockies of Montana. An outdoor enthusiast's dream! There are over 60,000 acres of wilderness to explore just minutes from downtown. Missoula's outdoor recreation opportunities make it an excellent location for getting outside. Enjoy hiking, kayaking, cycling, tubing, backpacking, skiing, climbing and more! Missoula has incredible local restaurants, shops, live music, and arts and culture events. It is full of families, students, and those who enjoy small town values with urban amenities!



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JOB DESCRIPTION

Have fun, get outdoors, and make a difference this summer while gaining valuable training and experience working in environmental education! Summer Camp Instructors will provide leadership and instruction for the full-day Summer Outdoor Discovery Day Camps at the Montana Natural History Center. Summer Instructors will facilitate and lead a variety of activities and themed camps, connect youth to nature, and explore the outdoors with children of different age levels.

ABOUT MNHC SUMMER CAMPS

MNHC's camps for kids ages 4–11 combine experiential natural science education with outdoor fun and adventure. Camps include environmental education, exploration, projects, field trips to local natural areas, free play, games, and more. Every week is unique, so camp staff will gain broad experience in outdoor environmental education while exploring a variety of topics in natural history.

AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

I. Specific Responsibilities:

- a) Maintain MNHC's expectations for safety, education, and positive group dynamics.
- b) Facilitate Summer Camp activities and schedule as assigned.
- c) Actively engage with campers throughout the normal camp day and during before- and after-care as scheduled.
- d) Communicate effectively, professionally, and positively with guardians, MNHC staff, and campers on successes and challenges throughout the day.
- e) Maintain program supplies and participate in keeping camp and storage areas organized.
- f) Supervise before- and after-care activities as scheduled in order to provide a safe and positive environment for children and their guardians.
- g) Work alongside a co-instructor to supervise, mentor, and lead activities for groups of up to 13 campers.
- h) Build positive group dynamics and ensure a safe and fun learning environment.
- i) Engage in reflective teaching practices and work towards skill building for yourself and support staff and campers in their growth.
- j) Drive MNHC's short bus from the Center to field trip locations or other camp sites (Note: not all Summer Instructors will be required to drive a bus).

II. Required Qualifications

- a) Experience with or passionate commitment to teaching/working with children in a variety of ages.
- b) Work effectively as an individual and as a member of a team.
- c) Flexible, positive, and solutions-oriented attitude and mindset.
- d) Ability to thrive in an environment that is fast-paced, creative, and dynamic.
- e) Current CPR/First Aid certification, or willingness to obtain prior to start date.
- f) (For bus drivers only) Having a clean driving record to be verified by a driving record check.



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III. Preferred Qualifications

- a) Experience participating in or teaching various outdoor and naturalist skills such as hiking, nature journaling, orienteering, citizen science projects, camping, place-based knowledge of Montana, etc.
- b) Practical knowledge of methodologies in science and natural history education.
- c) Knowledge of local Montana flora and fauna.
- d) WFR, Lifeguard, and/or additional safety certifications.

IV. Reporting Relationships

Summer Camp Instructors report to MNHC Program Team.

The Montana Natural History Center will commit to building a diverse community which is inclusive of people from all backgrounds. The Montana Natural History Center does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, disability, age, citizenship status, genetic information, marital status, sexual orientation, mental illness, or physical illness. This nondiscrimination policy applies to employees, volunteers, participants, and all aspects of our operations.

To apply please send the following to jrobinson@montananaturalist.org:

- Resume
- Cover letter
- List of three professional references



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