



ELEMENTS LEARNING COLLABORATIVE

ELEMENTSLEARNING@GMAIL.COM

Join Our Team!

Assistant Guide - Educator and Learning Guide

Starting in March, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday,

Hours: 8:30am - 3:30pm. ~23 hours per week, 42 weeks per year.

Location: Round the Bend Farm, South Dartmouth, MA

The Organization

Elements Learning Collaborative offers year round, learning opportunities for children and families. Our mission is to provide children of diverse backgrounds with holistic, joyful and child-centered learning experiences in nature; ones that foster social and emotional development as well as responsibility and independence. Our keystone program is Elements Nature Program (ENP) which provides a new model of education to homeschooling families in the community. ENP launched in 2018, and has grown each year, with recent scaling back due to the pandemic. ENP runs 3 days/wk for 10-12 weeks. ENP is a drop-off program, geared toward children ages 4-10 years old, and takes place at Round the Bend Farm: A Center for Restorative Community (www.roundthebendfarm.org), in South Dartmouth, MA. Using the natural setting of the farm, fields, and nature trails we provide a holistic learning approach where the curriculum is based on child-led interests as well as local ecosystems, healthy movement, food systems, art, literature, mathematics, science, music & social thinking.

In addition to Elements Nature Program, ELC also offers weekly summer camp, family programs, parent support, and a downloadable nature-based curriculum. In 2020 ELC served 60 individual children, an increase from previous years. Families pay tuition on a sliding scale, and scholarships for ENP are provided.

We look forward to receiving your resume!
Rachel Medeiros & Cristy O'Brien
Co-Directors, Elements Nature Program
Co-Founders, Elements Learning Collaborative

The Position: Assistant Guide

Qualifications:

A Guide at Elements Nature Program shall meet all the following:

- Be patient, kind, and respectful towards all, especially children;
- Hold a Bachelors or Associates Degree AND/OR a Child Development Associate credential (CDA);
- Have previous experience leading groups (preferably children) in physical or educational activities.
- Be knowledgeable within two or more of the following areas: child development/education (Montessori, Reggio Emilia, nature education), nature studies/natural science, survival skills, craftsmanship, art, and/or mind body work (yoga, meditation & mindfulness),
- Have a calm, yet engaging energy.
- Be CPR/First Aid certified;
- Have a clear record through CORI/SORI;
- Have the physical capacity to work with preschool and school aged children in an outdoor environment in varying weather conditions,
- Keep up with professional development ~ 20 hours per school year.

Job Responsibilities:

Responsibilities to the Directors:

- Supervise the children outdoors, while knowing and maintaining the safe child to staff ratios.
- Lead activities designed to promote social, physical, and intellectual development by engaging the children in a cohesive, lively, intriguing manner.
- Encourage the children to be independent, while providing adequate assistance to develop their skills.
- Model for them appropriate manners and behaviors at all times.
- Assist in establishing and maintaining a harmonious group.
- Always be available to offer gentle guidance when a child is struggling; with gear, with friends, with missing a parent, etc.
- Guide children through understanding their emotions, listen and acknowledge their perspectives and feelings.
- Assist in documenting learning.
- Participate in all staff meetings and program events.

- Be familiar with the program policies and staff handbook.
- Inform the lead guide of any difficulties within the program, including behavior management, health, equipment needs, repair and maintenance.
- Communicate with the Program Directors to discuss goals for yourself, individual students and the program.

Responsibilities to the Children and Parents:

- Respect the child and their individual learning styles, and developmental struggles.
- Be patient and calm when children are struggling with difficult behaviors.
- Be professional and positive in all dealings with children and parents.
- Keep families' personal, financial and health information confidential.
- Share all pertinent information from parents with a Director.
- Be present at parent/teacher conferences.
- Establish and maintain professional, cooperative, working relationships with children, parents, volunteers and other associates individuals.

Responsibilities to the Classroom:

- Clean and tidy workspaces after use, ensuring assistance from children involved
- Clean and tidy the classroom at the end of the day.
- Providing the children with a "prepared environment".
- Keep the learning area inviting and relevant to the children's interests.
- Demonstrate and remind children to keep the space neat and clean when removing gear and eating meals.
- Actively include children in keeping themselves and the space neat and clean when removing gear and eating meals.