



# Teacher Naturalist

**Department:** Education

**Supervisor:** Katharina Livar, Public Programs Manager

**Hours:** Part-time (10 hrs/week), Non-exempt

- Fri. - Sun. between the hours of 8 AM - 10 PM
- Occasional weekday evenings

## Summary

The Part-time Teacher Naturalist will provide programming using Ijams Nature Center's educational approach to providing high quality programming in the East TN region that is relevant, impactful, and builds community through place-based, student-centered, and multi-layered experiences.

## Duties and Responsibilities

- Work with Public Programs Manager to create more hiking, service-learning, and after-school opportunities for youth and young adults
- Lead guided kayaking and caving programs for youth and adults
- Deliver public programs on a variety of natural history topics and phenomena
  - Programs include but are not limited to: Tennessee Naturalist Program, Ijams Hiking Club, Ijams Field Days, Educational Festivals, Evening Programs, Guided Workshops, and other public programs
- Assist in advancing community science initiatives and opportunities
- Help develop new public programs centered around sustainability and community action
- Deliver programming with live animals (small raptors, reptiles, and mammals)
- Present and exhibit at community events, education fairs, educational conferences, and other outreach opportunities to market programs and expand engagement opportunities with the public
- Assist Public Programs Manager with volunteer training
- Assist Animal Coordinator with tasks related to Ijams Animal Ambassadors (rehabilitated wild animals); tasks include but not limited to feeding, caring for, handling small raptors, reptiles and mammals, etc.
- Assist Public Programs Manager with tracking program participation and feedback, preparing lesson plans for public programs, and marketing and advertising of educational programming
- Advance Ijams commitment to improved cultural relevance through diversity, equity, inclusion in its programs, on its staff, and through its participants
- Other duties as assigned

## **Desired Skills and Abilities**

- Must have the energy and desire to work with diverse audiences
- Must have a passion for nature and the ability to deliver programs in a pleasant, tactful and enthusiastic manner
- Must have excellent written and oral communication skills and the ability to work collaboratively with many different partners
- Must be highly organized with strong attention to detail, accuracy and deadlines
- Must have a valid driver license and reliable transportation to/from work
- Must be able to pass a criminal and vehicular background check
- Must have or be willing to gain minimum experience using computers and virtual platforms for internal and external communications
- Ability to curate a positive, collaborative, energetic, and innovative attitude and approach to the professional community at Ijams

## **Qualifications**

- Bachelor's degree in a field related to natural history, education, outdoor recreation or environmental science or two to four years of equivalent experience and/or training
- Experience teaching and coordinating programming for adults, especially in an informal science setting
- Experience teaching environmental education programs in museum or other non-traditional education settings preferred
- Experience teaching with live animals
- Experience working with audiences who are diverse in culture, age, race and physical abilities

## **Other Requirements**

- Must have a valid driver license and reliable transportation to/from work
- Must be able to pass a criminal and vehicular background check
- Must have or be willing to gain minimum experience using computers and virtual platforms for internal and external communications
- First Aid/CPR certification, or the ability to obtain certification upon employment

## **Physical Requirements**

- Must be able to lift and carry or otherwise move up to 50 pounds
- Must be able to work around small children including sitting, standing, running, and climbing
- Must be able to traverse safely over uneven or irregular terrain
- Must be able to work in outdoor environments in all weather conditions
- Must be able to see and respond to dangerous situations
- Must be able to wear personal protective gear correctly most of the day

## **Compensation/Benefits**

Pay for this position is between \$12-\$14 based on experience.

## About Ijams Nature Center

Ijams Nature Center is a nonprofit nature center located on the banks of the Tennessee River near Knoxville's urban center. Its mission is to encourage stewardship of the natural world by providing an urban greenspace for people to learn about and enjoy the outdoors through engaging experiences. Ijams Nature Center manages 318 acres of land with more than 12 miles of trails, a large Visitor Center, Mead's Quarry lake, mountain biking trails, river access, gardens, and much more. People of all ages attend educational programs, including school field trips, family programs, summer camps, and adult workshops. Ijams Nature Center partners with Knox County and the City of Knoxville as well as with multiple agencies to provide outstanding educational offerings. Visit the Ijams website at [ijams.org](http://ijams.org) for current program information.

## Equal Opportunity Employment

Ijams Nature Center is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate against employees or job applicants on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, national origin, mental or physical disability, veteran status, or any other status or condition protected by applicable state or federal laws. These anti-discrimination policies also apply to volunteers and program recipients. Ijams Nature Center provides reasonable accommodations to all applicants and employees. Applicants with disabilities may request reasonable accommodation at any point in the employment process.

## To Apply

Send resume, cover letter, and three references (*will not be contacted without notice*) to Katharina Livar, Public Programs Manager, at [klivar@ijams.org](mailto:klivar@ijams.org). The **deadline** to apply is **April 22, 2023.**