



JOB TITLE: MENTOR TEACHER
LOCATION: YOSEMITE
REPORTS TO: EDUCATION DIRECTOR
FLSA STATUS: EXEMPT

About NatureBridge

Founded in 1971, NatureBridge provides environmental science programs for students in the world's best classrooms—our national parks. Our mission is to foster environmental literacy to sustain our planet. Our programs do so by exposing students to the wonder and science of nature and inspiring the stewards of tomorrow. As the largest residential education partner of the National Park Service, NatureBridge serves more than 30,000 students and their teachers each year and offers programs in six national parks: Yosemite National Park, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Olympic National Park, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Channel Islands National Park, and Prince William Forest Park. In order to further our mission, NatureBridge is committed to supporting diversity, equity, and inclusion and to promoting equal opportunity for students and staff in the field of environmental education. For more information, visit: naturebridge.org

Summary

The Mentor Teacher coordinates observation, assessment, and professional development of Field Educators. Along with the Education Managers, they provide supervision for all Environmental Science Educators. Additionally the Mentor Teacher provides management support for daily programming and emergency response.

Primary Duties and Responsibilities

- Supervise approximately between eight and fourteen Environmental Science Educators.
- Observe faculty teaching days and provides detailed feedback including written and verbal evaluation.
- Provide training in the field, afternoon seminars and seasonal staff training on teaching techniques, activities, and educational methodology/philosophy of field science.
- Provide daily management and oversight of program, to include serving as 'day manager' one or more days per week in the Valley office, running morning meetings, answering phone calls, and checking in field staff at end of day.
- Support NatureBridge initial response in the event of an emergency by being available on radio for emergencies and general field support.
- Assist the Education Director in staff development and curriculum design as part of the Education Team.
- Support and mentor Environmental Science Educators, through supporting professional development, ensuring implementation of NatureBridge Core Educational Framework, while working with needs of incoming teachers.
- Serve as a resource for natural history/cultural of Sierra Nevada— training and instructional support.
- Collaborate with other campuses and national office staff on organization wide efforts.
- Perform all other duties as assigned by the supervisor.

In addition and based upon the Mentor Teacher's credentials, experience and/or expertise they

will perform any required combination of the following:

- Field based stewardship projects/ instructional observation, assessment and support to include focused professional development for veteran staff (seminars).
- Oversee and manage of curriculum development for programming: including age appropriate, culture, core educational framework (CEF), inquiry and thematic teaching.
- Provide recommendations for revising Manuals (New Staff, Backcountry, Pedagogy) as necessary.
- Oversee Evening Programs – manage program development, delivery and observation/assessment.
- Coordinate, administer and manage Stewardship program throughout operation area – including Leave No Trace (LNT) training for staff, trail use data, etc.

Program support

Duties performed along with Mentor Teachers and the support of the Education Managers and Education Director (20% of time):

- Provide training in the field through afternoon seminars, staff meetings, and seasonal staff training on teaching techniques, activities, and educational methodology/philosophy of field science.
- Provide daily management and oversight of program, to include serving as day manager one or more days per week in the Yosemite Valley office, running morning meetings, answering phone calls, and checking in field staff at the end of the day.
- Serve as a curriculum development and educational technology resource for Environmental Science Educators.
- Serve as the On-Call Manager every ~8 weeks to respond to program related issues and emergencies at night and on weekends.
- Provide general management and support during program emergencies.
- Available to substitute to work in the field as an Environmental Science Educator on an as-needed, occasional basis.
- Perform other duties, as assigned by the Education Director.

Experience, Competencies and Education

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill, and/or ability required.

Qualifications include:

- Bachelor's degree (B.A. or B.S.) from four-year college or university, or experience equivalent; degree in educational or environmental/natural sciences is preferred.
- At least three years of programming experience in environmental/science education
- Pro-active communicator who is able to work both independently and as a member of a team.
- Three years of programming experience in environmental/outdoor education.
- Well-organized and self-directed with a track record of quality field instruction and wilderness leadership.
- Experience in peer leadership and mentorship as well as knowledge of National Park system and experience of working as a park partner are preferred.
- Knowledge of the National Park Service and experience working as a park partner preferred.
- Familiarity with NatureBridge programs in Yosemite National Park preferred.
- Wilderness First Responder certification or higher and Current CPR.

Supervisory Responsibilities

- Supervise approximately 1/3 of field staff (between eight and fourteen).
- Supervise 43 Field Science Educators indirectly in a mentoring and oversight capacity, as well as the Education Support positions.

Budget Managed

None.

Working Conditions

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is exposed to weather conditions prevalent at the time. The employee may be required at short notice to respond to emergency situations that may involve extended periods in the poor weather conditions, carrying heavy weight over uneven ground, at elevations ranging from 4000-10,000 feet above sea level. The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate.

Physical Demands

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is occasionally required to stand; walk; sit; use hands to handle, or feel objects, tools or controls; reach with hands and arms; climb stairs; balance; stoop, kneel, crouch or crawl; talk or hear; taste or smell. The employee must be able to hike 10+ miles with a 45 lbs. backpack. Specific vision abilities required by the job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus.

HOW TO APPLY

Qualified candidates should email their resume, cover letter, references (three professional) to: yosemiteedteamhiring@naturebridge.org

This is a full-time, 10-month, exempt position with a summer furlough. Salary is commensurate with experience. NatureBridge provides a comprehensive compensation package, including competitive salary, medical, dental benefits, vision, and generous vacation. This position is based in Yosemite Valley in Yosemite National Park. Applications will be accepted until September 11, 2017. Applications will be reviewed as they are received.