

Early Years Engagement Volunteer

Team

Natural Childhood Team (within the People and Wildlife Department)

Role Description

We are looking for friendly, enthusiastic people to support the delivery of weekly outdoor sessions for 0-5 year olds called Wildlings. These take place on Wednesdays at 10.30am until 12noon within a contained outdoor space in Shrewsbury and Thursdays 10.30am until 12noon at Alderford Lake near Whitchurch. Sessions involve activities like mud play, pond dipping and campfire cooking. Knowledge of wildlife is not essential as the focus is on providing a safe space for toddlers to play and explore the outdoors independently. An ability to communicate with young children and support adults is more important.

Volunteers will be expected to help set up the session and tidy/clear away afterwards, including any washing up that accumulates over the session.

Please note that the role can be physically demanding, includes being out in all weathers, carrying equipment and walking some distance over rough, steep and or muddy ground

Skills and Experience

- You'll enjoy getting messy outdoors, communication with young children, be enthusiastic, self-confident and able to work as part of a team
- Love of the outdoors / taking part in outdoor activities

Essential / Desirable?

- Essential
- Essential

Skills Development Offered

- Appropriate training will be given, and you will be encouraged to take on more responsibility within the sessions as and when you feel ready – including the opportunity to lead parts or all of workshops if you wish to
- Many opportunities to undertake additional training, including First Aid, Child Protection, Risk Assessment, John Muir Award Leader, Bushcraft etc.

Support Available

- Regular contact with our friendly People and Wildlife Officers
- Opportunity to meet and work with new and experienced Education Volunteers
- Once you register as a volunteer, you will be invited to volunteer social events and training

Minimum time commitment needed

At least two sessions a month following training and an induction.

Other information

- We have a robust application process for education roles which includes a probationary period, two references, an induction, compulsory training in Child Protection and a satisfactory DBS check (a trial session to see what is involved with the role is exempt from this).
- You will be expected to comply with our safeguarding policy and procedures and code of practise for appropriate behaviour.
- Volunteers must not apply for this role if they are prohibited from working with children.

Contact

For role information: [email](#) Kathryn Jones, Education & Learning Officer

To apply for this role: submit your online application [here](#) or from our [volunteer webpage](#)