



New Canaan Nature Center

144 Oenoke Ridge
New Canaan, CT 06840-4198
Tel (203) 966-9577
Fax (203) 966-6536
www.NewCanaanNature.org

New Canaan Nature Center

Preschool Part-Time Teacher- 3's, 4's or 5's Classes

The New Canaan Nature Center Preschool, a nature based, NAEYC accredited preschool is seeking dynamic and experienced part-time teachers for our 3's program, 4 mornings a week. And our 4's program, 5 mornings and 2 afternoons a week. Candidates must have a Bachelors or Associates degree in Early Childhood Education, Environmental Education or presently enrolled in a program. Master's degree is highly beneficial. Experience teaching in nature and play based programs with young children a must. This teacher will be outside every day with the class in all kinds of weather on our 40-acre nature preserve. The NCNC Preschool is looking for a dedicated, compassionate and caring individual who enjoys working with young children in a nature-based preschool environment.

Teaching/Class Responsibilities

- Create a classroom environment that is living the best practices of nature-based early childhood education as well as applying best practice in pedagogy and assessment.
- Support and guide every child's social, emotional and cognitive development in a positive and proactive fashion.
- Supervise and facilitate a developmentally appropriate learning environment for children throughout the school day, including indoor and outdoor learning and activity times, class meetings, clean-up, bathroom break, snack, stories, etc.
- Plan class activities to incorporate as much outdoor learning and activity time as possible.
- Establish positive and productive relationships with preschool families.
- Assist with inside and outside classroom organization and general cleanliness, and maintenance including plant and animal care.
- Serve as a substitute teacher for all Preschool classes, Mommy, Me & Nature, Lunch Bunch and Environmental Education Programs when available and needed.
- Post *weekly* lesson plans on the parent information bulletin boards in cubby rooms; and add to lesson plan book in Preschool Director's office weekly.
- Email journals to families at least *once* a week, including descriptions of class activities, photos, announcements, upcoming class and preschool events and Nature Center as a whole, etc.
- Observe in-house classrooms at least twice per year.
- Meet all NAEYC accreditation and Connecticut licensing mandates.
- Be open- minded and willing to try new ideas and new ways of doing things to improve instruction, assessment, relationships, effectiveness, efficiency and any other relevant behaviors and skills.
- Incorporate developmentally appropriate, nature and play based early childhood subjects and activities within a professional environment of sustainability.
- Evaluate effectiveness of curriculum on a daily basis.
- Proactively plan and schedule EE Buddy Teacher visits and experiences for your class.
- Plan, communicate and cooperate with your teaching team.
- Participate in staff development and continuing education.
- Participate in *three* parent/teacher conferences (in person and/or via telephone) as well as other conferences with parents which are scheduled throughout the year as needed. Complete and share two written forms with parents, Complete all Child Assessments.

- Manage compliance with health and safety and cleaning protocols within the classroom.
- Proactively participate in compilation and maintenance of NAEYC classroom and program portfolios and all other aspects of successful NAEYC accreditation renewal process.
- Participate in all staff meetings.

Professional Staff Duties and responsibilities

- Serve as in-house expert on early childhood environmental education, and serve a similar role for the education profession outside of the Nature Center.
- Actively participate in creating effective solutions for program, department and organization.
- Establish rapport and trust with others, including parents, supervisors and colleagues.
- Work as part of the larger NCNC team.

This position begins August 25, 2021 to May 20, 2022. Additional income is available with work in our vacation programs and summer camp.

For more information: www.newcanaannature.org

Email cover letter, resume and 2 references to Anna Zielinski, Preschool Director
azielinski@newcanaannature.org.