



Job Title: Part-Time Teacher-Naturalist
Begins August 2021

The Harris Center for Conservation Education

Since our founding in 1970, the Harris Center has become a transformative force in the Monadnock Region of southwestern New Hampshire, where we promote understanding and respect for our natural environment through education of all ages, direct protection and exemplary stewardship of the region's natural resources, conservation research, and programs that encourage active participation in the great outdoors. We are committed to ensuring that our education programs, trails, conserved lands, and conservation research projects are welcoming spaces for all, regardless of racial or religious background, gender identity, sexual orientation, economic means, or range of physical ability.

Teacher-Naturalist Position

We are seeking a part-time teacher-naturalist (50% time) who has experience teaching outdoors and in school settings, to work with students in grades K-5 and their teachers at six public schools in the Monadnock Region. Our naturalists primarily plan and teach collaboratively with class teachers, linking their curriculum to the local landscape. We explore nature in school neighborhoods, nurture curiosity, and encourage students to answer their questions through careful observation. Other duties include occasional community programming and day camp sessions.

The Harris Center is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion. We strongly encourage people of color, people with disabilities, LGBTQ applicants, and people from other underrepresented groups to apply, recognizing that diverse perspectives and experiences are valuable to our team and to those we serve.

The teacher-naturalist is expected to:

- Share their curiosity and knowledge about nature and place through their teaching
- Build collaborative relationships with class teachers to maximize student learning
- Contribute to the Harris Center through strong programming and creative participation in the behind-the-scenes work of the organization, pitching in as needs arise
- Be physically capable of leading mountain hikes, carrying gear, and managing safety while teaching
- Incorporate principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion into their teaching
- This position requires a COVID vaccination, unless the applicant has a medical or religious exemption.

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The ideal candidate will have these traits and capabilities:

Teaching

- Competence and confidence as a teacher-naturalist in both field and classroom
- Comfort with and respect for school culture, schedules, behavior management, and curriculum standards
- Passion for working with children ages 5-13
- Interest in reading and applying current literature on outdoor inquiry experiential learning
- Commitment to excellence in one's teaching plans and delivery
- Flexibility: ability to shift the plan based on the energy of the class or scheduling surprises
- Resourcefulness: enthusiasm for and adept at locating resources needed to complete a task
- Relaxed, with positive energy while teaching

Communication

- Strong communication skills: expresses self clearly and concisely, and listens well with students, teachers, and colleagues
- Team player: at ease jumping in to help colleagues and seeking inspiration from colleagues
- Able to recognize others' emotions and perspectives, taking them into account
- Open to feedback and self-reflection
- Finds and uses productive opportunities for communicating about Harris Center school programs

Organization Skills

- Highly organized: able to manage multiple programs simultaneously
- Committed to following Harris Center organizational procedures
- Effective time manager, breaking complex tasks into manageable parts in a timely manner
- Accountable

Other Attributes

- Self starter, motivated to learn new things
- Demonstrated commitment to professional growth
- Ability to work independently, while also tapping into the expertise of colleagues and a mentor
- Curious mind: someone who seeks to know more about what they are doing and who pursues nature-based interests in their leisure time
- Calm and confident under pressure
- Sense of humor
- Problem solver

Salary Range: \$18,000-\$20,000

To apply, send a cover letter, resume, and contact information for three references to Jenna Spear, Harris Center School Program Manager, at spear@harriscenter.org. **Application closing date is June 16, 2021.**