

Position Description

Working Title:	Summer Wilderness Instructor
Classification:	Association Temp Program (Non-Exempt)
Start Date:	6/9/2022
End Date:	9/2/2022
Duration (months):	3
Hours per week:	40
Days per week / schedule:	Monday-Friday
Work Location:	4-H Acres, Other Camp Locations
Supervisor Name & Title:	Rachel Bortin, Summer Camp Director
Compensation:	\$13.20-\$15.25/hr depending on experience
Benefits Eligibility:	Not Benefits Eligible
Employment Type:	Temporary

Position Summary

Wilderness Instructors facilitate the core aim of Primitive Pursuits; bringing groups of youth into natural areas, away from facilities and without modern gear, and engaging them in a self-directed inquiry into basic, personal and group survival needs. Their key role in this task will be to assist and instruct youth on survival skills in the wild including but not limited to: primitive technology, fire making, shelter construction and procurement of food and water. Wilderness instructors also mentor youth in naturalist skills and knowledge, promote stewardship and build healthful relationships in the outdoor environment. Wilderness Instructors may work with Growing Wild (3-5 yr olds) or Day Camp (5-14 yr olds).

Individuals who bring a diverse perspective and are supportive of diversity are strongly encouraged to apply.

Responsibilities

- Creating and implementing experiential environmental immersions for diverse groups of youth in the context of wilderness survival, living skills, naturalist skills and knowledge
- Role-modeling passion and enthusiasm around engaging with the elements of nature
- Facilitating group energy and responding swiftly to group needs in order to effectively manage and engage each participant in a positive experience
- Actively contributing to efforts of leadership team in planning, preparing, delivering and evaluating each week and each day of programming
- Representing the high caliber of the organization when speaking to parents, staff and participants
- Delivering high-adventure experiences while keeping an unfailing eye on the safety of each activity and each participant and co-worker in accordance with risk management protocols
- Working with ages between 3-15, day camp (potentially overnights too)
- Mentoring staff on a path to comfort and success among their peers and in potentially adverse environments

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Required Qualifications

- At least 18 years of age
- Driver's license and/or ability to arrange transportation to various camp locations.
- Experience as a naturalist/wilderness instructor OR camp counselor working with youth ages 6-15 in an undeveloped setting
- Willingness to work in a changing environment and tackle new problems each day
- Ability to learn and convey skill sets efficiently
- Demonstrate a high level of comfort and curiosity in the natural world
- Developing skills in specialized areas pertaining to wilderness living and primitive skills OR seeking to learn specialized skills pertaining to wilderness living and primitive skills
- Demonstrate ability to inspire and relate positively with youth and teens
- Previous experience with primitive technologies and wilderness survival skills

Preferred Qualifications

- Demonstrate ability to thrive in rigorous outdoor physical education activities
- Experience with working with youth and/or primitive technologies and wilderness survival skills
- Reflect on a range of personal experiences working independently and within a team
- Passionate about learning new material and practicing skills outside of work
- Past experiences working with people of diverse educational and cultural backgrounds
- Experience in eight shields mentoring

How to Apply

Please complete our online employment application including a cover letter and resume.

Applications will be accepted until April 1, 2022 or until all positions are filled.

Contact

Rachel Bortin, Summer Camp Director at primitivepursuitsopportunities@gmail.com

Additional Info

Please be sure to read the Notice to Applicants found on the Jobs with CCE page:

<https://cals.cornell.edu/cornell-cooperative-extension/join-us/jobs>

Please Note: Effective January 10, 2022, all CCE Tompkins employees must be fully vaccinated and present proof of an FDA- or WHO- authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccination; or have an approved disability/medical or religious exemption; or be documented to work fully remotely, fully outdoors, or in a workplace with no other people present. Failure to demonstrate compliance with this requirement within the first 30 days of work may result in the delay of employment, unpaid leave, or termination.

For more information, visit: [https://s3.amazonaws.com/assets.cce.cornell.edu/](https://s3.amazonaws.com/assets.cce.cornell.edu/attachments/54591/2022.01.06_APPROVED_mandatory-vaccination-policy.pdf?1641517570)

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No relocation or VISA Sponsorship available.

The Association may make reasonable accommodations to enable applicants to participate in the hiring process and employees to perform the essential functions of their job. If you require an accommodation so you may participate in the selection process you are encouraged to contact CCE Tompkins HR at tompkins-hr@cornell.edu.

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