

Position Description

Working Title:	Summer Camp Wilderness Instructor
Classification:	Association Temp Program (Non-Exempt)
Start Date:	6/19/2023
End Date:	9/8/2023
Duration (months):	3
Hours per week:	40
Days per week / schedule:	Monday-Friday
Work Location:	4-H Acres
Compensation:	\$14.20-\$16 per hour
Supervisor Name & Title:	Rachel Bortin, Camp Director
Benefits Eligibility:	Not Benefits Eligible
Employment Type:	Temporary

Position Summary

The mission of Primitive Pursuits is to steward the health of our community by fostering life-long relationships with the natural world through exceptional mentoring and nature education.

A Wilderness Instructor facilitates 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 fun way that sparks a deep, meaningful connection to the natural world, themselves, and each other. The key role of a Wilderness Instructor is to assist and instruct youth on outdoor and naturalist skills, including but not limited to: primitive technology, fire making, shelter construction and procurement of food and water. Wilderness instructors act as mentors who share their 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 (5-15 yr olds).

Required Qualifications

- 16 years of age or older
- Driver's license and/or ability to arrange transportation to various camp locations on time
- Able to Attend Staff Training Week June 21-23, 2022
- 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 outdoor 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, primitive or naturalist skills OR seeking to learn specialized skills pertaining to wilderness living and primitive or naturalist skills
- Demonstrate ability to inspire and relate positively with youth and teens
- Previous experience with primitive technologies and wilderness survival or naturalist/outdoor skills
- Aim to uphold the 4 Values of camp: Belonging, Gratitude, Awareness, Getting Outside, in all interactions with campers, staff, families and parents and within programs, and activities

Helping you put knowledge to work.

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Preferred Qualifications

- Demonstrate ability to thrive in rigorous outdoor physical education activities
- Experience instructing youth on primitive technologies and wilderness survival/naturalist 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 and Coyote mentoring

Responsibilities

- Create and implement experiential environmental immersions for diverse groups of youth in the context of wilderness survival, living skills, outdoor/naturalist skills and knowledge
- Role-model passion, enthusiasm and comfort around engaging with the elements of nature
- Facilitate group energy and responding swiftly to group needs in order to effectively manage and engage each participant in a positive experience
- Actively contribute 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 and potentially overnights too

How to Apply

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

Applications will be accepted until May 1, 2023 or until a suitable candidate is found.

Contact

Rachel Bortin, Camp Director, primitivepursuits-opportunities@cornell.edu

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>

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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.