



Museum Education: Earth Science Summer Internship Position Description

POSITION SUMMARY:

Museum Education interns are in the halls and labs of OMSI where they facilitate hands-on science experiences and inspire museum guests to make amazing connections with science through activities, demonstrations, and informal interactions. Interns assist Museum Education staff in the regular presentation and development of the museum halls and labs.

This position for Earth Science reports to the Earth Sciences Coordinator. Earth Science focuses on how earth systems and humans affect each other. Visitors explore topics that include climate change, renewable energy, watersheds, plate tectonics, and paleontology. The hall includes the Earth and Paleontology Labs, and a Science on a Sphere (SOS) exhibit. SOS is a six-foot diameter globe with data visualizations projected on it.

EXPERIENCES THE INTERNSHIP WILL PROVIDE:

- Facilitating hands-on earth science activities and interactions with museum guests of all ages
- Working in a collaborative environment with paid and unpaid staff of a variety of ages, experiences, and backgrounds
- Assisting with teaching reserved, hands-on classes on paleontology and other earth science topics
- Opportunities to develop projects such as demonstrations, lab displays and signage, or curriculum
- Assist with maintaining and resetting lab exhibits and displays

KNOWLEDGE/SKILLS/ABILITIES:

What we are looking for:

- Strong communication, customer service, and problem-solving skills.
- Self-directed and willing to take initiative.
- Desire and/or ability to present science process and content in an engaging way to a broad age range.
- Present a professional personal appearance.
- Must be dependable, punctual, and willing to commit to a schedule.
- Must have an earth science background (ie geology, climate, paleontology)

Training you will receive:

- General informal science education philosophies and pedagogy
- Facilitation best practices, including how to facilitate intergenerational communication, frame questions, gauge and respond to guests' social and educational goals, and cultivate learner-driven investigations
- Culturally responsive facilitation strategies
- Museum safety and emergency response
- Engaging visitors in earth science classes, demonstrations, and activities
- Lab specific maintenance and procedures

SCHEDULE:

- Schedule depends on needs of the lab or hall, but will be regular and predictable week to week.
- Minimum of 16 hours per week for at least 12 weeks.
- Tuesday, Wednesday, and/or Thursday schedule

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LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Recognizing and promoting of science process skills
- Fostering learner-driven investigations
- Negotiating facilitator and visitor goals for optimal museum experience
- Cultivating reflective facilitation practices
- Supporting culturally responsive facilitation techniques
- Identifying benefits and disadvantages of using different types of objects and models in learning experiences
- Gaining knowledge of museum culture and practices
- Experience with explaining earth science concepts to visitors of all ages and backgrounds

PHOTOS OF THE WORK AREA:

