



BAY CLIFF HEALTH CAMP

CHILDREN'S THERAPY AND WELLNESS CENTER

Nature Instructor Job Description

(Children's Summer Therapy Camp Session)

The Nature program is designed to give the campers "hands-on" instruction in learning about their environment and caring for it. Most of the instructional time is spent experiencing nature in the great northern woods and along Lake Superior. The Nature program is part of the Activities Department at Bay Cliff which includes the Recreation, Arts and Crafts and Nature Instructors as well as the Waterfront staff. The Activities Department provides daily instructional classes. While recognizing differences in an individual's background and style, the following outline provides a basic idea of the responsibilities of a **Nature Instructor**.

RESPONSIBLE TO: Educational Coordinator, Camp Director

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Have fun, enjoy being with children, and enter enthusiastically into camp life, activities, and routines.
2. Plan and develop fun, entertaining, daily lessons that engage the campers in hands-on learning and skill development.
3. Plan and carry out one evening "all-camp" activity during the summer, with the Activities Staff.
4. Keep a notebook of lesson plans, activities, inventory, and ideas as a resource for future instructors.
5. Carry out any other duties as may be assigned by the Educational Coordinator or Camp Director.

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Arrive at camp on the specified day in your contract.
2. Clean and organize work area at the beginning of camp, during, and at the end of camp.
3. Provide a written inventory of supplies and equipment to the Educational Coordinator at the beginning and at the end of camp.

4. Prepare a list of supplies and equipment needed for your planned activities, if they are not on hand, and submit list to Educational Coordinator.
5. Assess the abilities of children during first week when you will have the opportunity to meet all the campers.
6. Plan 7 weeks of activities appropriate to the age level and abilities of each child. Campers range in age from 3-17 and disabilities range from mild to complex. These disabilities include physical impairments (i.e., cerebral palsy, spina bifida, etc.), speech/language impairment, hearing loss, and vision impairments. Therapy staff members are available to consult with instructors.
7. Be prepared with activities for rainy days that necessitate holding your classes inside rather than outside.
8. Submit written daily lesson plans to Educational Coordinator before the start of each week. Solicit ideas for activities from counselors and unit leaders as they know their campers' interests and abilities.
9. Instruct and manage the class sessions which run approximately 45 minutes in length from 9:00-11:45 a.m. and 3:00-5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.
10. Work with the assistance of the counselors who will serve as aides during the class that their campers are scheduled.
11. Facilitate and assist counselors in setting up weekend activity classes which are done on a sign-up basis for Saturday and Sunday.
12. Be willing to set up special nature clubs with interested campers during non-class times.
13. Participate in the general camp program. This includes attendance at meals, helping counselors at evening programs, and participating in all-camp activities such as the 4th of July celebration.
14. Accept an assignment of Rest Counsel with the campers, 2-3 times, as needed.
15. Clean and maintain living quarters at the beginning, during, and at the end of camp.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Experience working with children in an outdoor classroom setting. Certified teachers are preferred.
2. High interest in and knowledge of nature and the ability to communicate that to children on their level.

3. Ability to work with others on staff in a spirit of cooperation, patience, and respect.
4. Flexibility, dependability.
5. Desire to live and work in camp setting.
6. A love of children is a must!