Children’s Garden Mentor Job Description 2014

Job description:
We are looking for four mentors for each of our Children’s Garden programs. As garden mentor you will be a role model to the younger gardeners in the session. If you love gardening, have experience gardening, and would like to help younger kids enjoy gardening, you should consider applying to become a garden mentor. We are looking for mentors who have the following qualifications:
- Have completed 2 years in the Children’s Garden Program or other garden experience
- Are at least 12 years old as of May 1, 2014
- Demonstrate ability to follow directions and work well with others
- Love gardening and nature exploration
- Like working with younger kids.
- Enjoy contributing ideas and working on special projects.
- Like being out-of-doors in all types of weather, rain or shine. (of course except in severe weather).

Responsibilities and expectations include:
- Assisting garden leaders in set up and clean up, including washing dishes, prepping snack, and wiping tables.
- Motivate the participants in the activities we are doing including weeding, watering, harvesting.
- Working along side participants to complete activities.
- Modeling appropriate behavior to promote a peaceful garden environment.
- Showing enthusiasm and enjoying their time in the garden.

Commitment:
- One morning or afternoon per week. Mentors will be expected to arrive ½ hour before children arrive to help set up the day’s activities and will be expected to stay ½ hour after children are scheduled to leave to help cleanup. Times listed reflect set up and clean up time.
- In an effort to provide consistent mentoring for program participants, mentors are encouraged to consider their ability to commit for the entire program. We ask that you miss no more than two program days.

Sessions:
Mentors may choose any one of four garden sessions: Mighty Mites two session options, Seed Sowers, or Garden Chefs (mentors must be >16 yrs old for Chefs). Read the descriptions, dates/times, and choose the session which works best for your schedule and interests you the most.

Questions:
Please call or email Kim Braun 952-443-4403  kube0028@umn.edu

Thanks for your interest in becoming a mentor!!!
**Mighty Mites**  
For entering Kindergarten-1st grade grads.

*Planting Saturdays* 2p.m. - 3:30p.m.: May 3 & 17  
*Summer Wednesdays* 2p.m. - 3:30p.m.: June 11, 18, 25, July 9, 16, 23, 20, August 6

*OR*

*Planting Saturdays* 9:30a.m. - 11a.m.: May 10 & 31  
*Summer Mondays* 9:30a.m. - 11a.m.: June 9, 16, 23, 30, July 7, 14, 21, 28, August 4

Grab a friend or meet a new one in class and start your growing adventure! Each week, you and your garden partner will dig in and discover a different topic about gardening, from seeds sprouting, bugs, and weeds to harvesting, snacking, and watering. You will use some of your harvest in class for snacks. The extra produce you will bring home to share with your family.

**Seed Sowers**  
For 1st – 4th Grade Graduates

*Planting Saturdays* 1p.m. - 3:30p.m.: May 10 & 31  
*Summer Mondays* 1p.m. - 3:30p.m.: June 9, 16, 23, 30, July 7, 14, 21, 28, August 4, 11

Together with your garden partner, explore garden mysteries like which plants attract butterflies, what’s inside a seed, and can you grow something taller than you? Each week the group will investigate a different garden mystery and make a tasty snack with produce from the garden! Extra harvest from your garden will be brought home to share with your family.

**Garden Chefs:**  
For 3rd – 8th Grade Graduates

*Planting Saturdays* 9a.m. - 11:30a.m.: May 3 & 17  
*Summer Wednesdays* 9a.m. - 11:30a.m.: June 11, 18, 25, July 9, 16, 23, 20, August 6, 13

Join other creative kid chefs in our hunt for delicious garden snacks. Each week, you and your partner will tend and harvest from your plot. Then you will bring your bounty to the Arboretum Harvest Kitchen and transform it into tasty eats. Additional produce will be brought home to share with your family.