Volunteer Job Description

Pea Pods for Preschoolers Station Leader
Summer 2015

Help 3-5 year olds and their caregivers engage in nature based play activities
Join staff and other volunteers in assisting children and their caregivers in open-ended play activities that provide an appreciation of the natural world, opportunities for adventure and discovery, exploration, and experimentation.

Program description
Pea Pods is for 3-5 year olds and a caregiver. Weekly themes are designed for the early learner and include stations for planting, art, sensory and discovery zones, snack, action and music, story time and adventures in the garden. The children and caregivers move through the stations at their own pace.

Responsibilities
● Lead a station by assisting the children and their caregivers in any way they need to fully enjoy and experience the activities. All stations are set up in advance and instructions given to help assist the children.
● Assist Arboretum staff in setting up for and cleaning up after program.
● Volunteers working in the Education Department are required to pass a Background Check prior to working with minors Contact Arika Quick, Manager of Volunteer Services if you need to verify your background check status or be screened.

Required Skills
● Enjoy working with 3-5 year old children and engaging with their caregivers
● Ability to assist in directed play activities
● Desire to share knowledge about plants and nature
● A bit of patience and a good sense of humor

Time Commitment and Schedule Details
● Thursdays, June 11 – August 20, 9:00 – 11:30 (program runs from 9:30 – 11:00)
  OR
  Fridays, June 12 – August 21, 9:00 – 11:30 (program runs from 9:30 – 11:00)
  No program 4th of July week
  It is not necessary to commit to all sessions in the series.
● Contact Eleta Donaldson for training information and for the volunteer calendar.

Benefits
● Have fun working with small children and their caregivers
● Learn interesting information related to our weekly plant-based topics
● Contribute to the mission of the education department

Work Environment:

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Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Volunteer Department
How to Apply for this Opportunity
If you are currently an Arboretum Volunteer and would like to apply for this opportunity, please contact the supervisor to set up an interview (could be done on the phone).

Supervisor & Contact Information
Eleta Donaldson, Early Childhood Educator eleta@aceweb.com

All Arboretum Volunteer opportunities are reserved for registered and active Arboretum Volunteers. All volunteers go through an orientation and screening process prior to applying for opportunities. Learn HOW TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER or call the Volunteer Center at 612-301-1203 to get started.