Volunteer Job Descriptions for Spring Field Trips

Help Teach 1st – 6th Grade Students
Join staff at the Learning Center, Sensory Garden, and Spring Peeper Meadow as they welcome students to the Arboretum. Volunteers teach 1-2 stations of the field trip for visiting schools and assist in set-up and clean-up of the program. We provide you with all the information and training you need.

Responsibilities
- Lead 1-2 stations during the field trip by demonstrating activities, passing out supplies, sharing information, and engaging students to provide them with the best experience possible.
- Assist Arboretum staff in setting up for and cleaning up after program.

Required Skills
- Enjoy working with youth ages 1st – 6th grade
- Ability to lead and teach a classroom of students
- Desire to share knowledge about plants and nature
- Bit of patience and a good sense of humor

Work Environment:

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<tr>
<th>Indoors</th>
<th>Lifting - light</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outdoors</th>
<th>Working individually</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sitting</th>
<th>Working with children</th>
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<tr>
<th>Standing</th>
<th>Working as part of a team</th>
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Benefits
- Learn interesting information about the various field trip topics
- Have fun working with youth
- Contribute to the mission of the education 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 and set up an interview.

Supervisor & Contact Information
Randy Gage, School Programs Coordinator, 952-443-1478 gage0020@umn.edu

Field Trip Description: Japanese Garden 1st – 6th Grade
A Japanese Garden reflects Japanese culture and values. Discover the traditions and visit Seisui-Tei, the Garden of Pure Water. Rocks are the backbone of the garden, forming the waterfall, the symbolic carp, and tortoise. Create individual take home gardens.

Time Commitment and Schedule Details
- Field trips are Tuesday–Friday, three times a day (usually 9:30-10:45, 11:15-12:30, 1:15-2:30) April 26-May 28
- Attend MANDATORY training for program on Thursday, April 22 12:30-3:00 pm at the Learning Center.
- Observe at the whole program at least once before leading a station.
- Sign-up to teach on our calendar. We ask that you help teach at least four times.

Field Trip Description: Spring to Life! 1st – 2nd Grade
Spring plant life cycles ‘come to life’ as buds leaf out, seeds sprout, and flowers open! Annual plants live a fast life, from seed to seed in a summer; ten years may pass before a tree’s first flower. Search for these ‘one summer’ and ‘many summer’ plants in different stages of their lives. Plant examples to take home. Play “Where’s my Baby?” under the trees, and find proof they are parents. Search the gardens for spring blooms already swelling into fruit.

Time Commitment and Schedule Details
- Field trips are Tuesday–Friday, three times a day (usually 9:30-10:45, 11:15-12:30, 1:15-2:30) April 26-May 28
- Attend MANDATORY training for program on Thursday, April 22 9:00-11:30 am at the Learning Center.
- Observe at the whole program at least once before leading a station.
- Sign-up to teach on our calendar. We ask that you help teach at least four times.
**Ready, Set, Grow! Field Trip Station Leader**

**Field Trip Description: Ready, Set, Grow! K-1st Grade**

People, plants, animals – everything alive has a habitat. With the help of the talking tree, discover how we can plant habitats for birds, butterflies, and other wildlife around our house and school. Search outdoors for signs of plants used by wildlife, start plants to feed caterpillars and provide nectar-filled flowers for butterflies.

**Time Commitment and Schedule Details**
- Field trips are Monday – Friday, three times a day (usually 9:30-10:45, 11:15-12:30, 1:15-2:30) April 26-May 28
- Attend MANDATORY training for program on Tuesday, April 20 9:00-11:30 am at the Learning Center.
- Observe at the whole program at least once before leading a station.
- Sign-up to teach on our calendar. We ask that you help teach at least three times.

**Woods in Bloom Field Trip Station Leader**

**Field Trip Description: Woods in Bloom 3rd - 6th Grade**

Dissect fresh flowers to learn their parts. Discover how pollinators are enticed to visit, thus helping seeds ripen. Enjoy drifts of wildflowers in bloom in the Dayton Wildflower Garden. Search for pollinators in action. Help gather data for a long range study to monitor wildflower bloom-time, related to climate change.

**Time Commitment and Schedule Details**
- Field trips are Monday – Friday, three times a day (usually 9:30-10:45, 11:15-12:30, 1:15-2:30) April 26-May 28
- Attend MANDATORY training for program on Tuesday, April 20 12:30-3:00 pm at the Learning Center.
- Observe at the whole program at least once before leading a station.
- Sign-up to teach on our calendar. We ask that you help teach at least three times.

**Discover Spring Peeper Meadow Field Trip Station Leader**

**Field Trip Description: Discover Spring Peeper Meadow 2nd – 6th Grade**

Follow the boardwalk from dry to squishy to underwater habitats in this restored sedge meadow wetland. Use dipnets and binoculars to see what plants and animals live here now. Help monitor Arboretum scientists’ work to bring nature back in a former cornfield.

**Time Commitment and Schedule Details**
- Field trips are Tuesday – Thursday, twice a day (usually 9:30-11:30 and 12:30-2:30) May 11 – May 27
- Attend MANDATORY training for program on Thursday, May 6 9:00-Noon at the Learning Center.
- Observe at the whole program at least once before leading a station.
- Sign-up to teach on our calendar. We ask that you help teach at least three times.