



## **Job Announcement – Programs for Schools Instructor**

Founded in 2004, Wild Earth leads programs for youth, adults, and families, serving more than 4,000 individuals in the Hudson Valley annually. Central to all of our programs is a unique organizational philosophy that prioritizes building connections and relationships in outdoor spaces. Wild Earth nurtures the development and empowerment of youth by fostering reciprocity with nature, cultivating regenerative practices, and uplifting equity and environmental justice. Wild Earth's current program priorities include:

**Supporting Students in Schools:** Since 2015 Wild Earth has provided social and emotional support to Kingston City School District students by cultivating consistent mentoring relationships and offering experiential and sensory-based programming on the playground and in nature. Wild Earth has also begun a program partner relationship with Ellenville Central School District and may develop that relationship more significantly in the years ahead.

**Supporting Hudson Valley Youth and Families - Summer and Year-round Programs:** Wild Earth has offered year-round weekend programs and summer camps since its founding in 2004. We provide youth ages 4-17 opportunities to cultivate their sense of agency and belonging through interactive, sensory-based team building experiences that connect them with nature, inspiring leaders, and one another.

**Community Engagement Partnerships:** Wild Earth is committed to engaging in collaboration with local partners and organizations with aligned vision and values. We believe in the continued growth of regenerative practices and structures that support joy, wellbeing, and connection to place; for our communities require a sustained and shared effort among community and organizational leaders.

As the organization supports growth across its program areas, Wild Earth continues to more fully center justice, access, diversity, and equity (JADE) in our approach and endeavors.

At Wild Earth, salaried staff collaborate in a participative leadership framework to uphold the organization's vision and mission through strategic collaborations pertinent to their expertise and job responsibilities. Through this structure, our leaders support and contribute to org-wide initiatives and considerations that impact their individual work, ensuring strategic decisions are well informed and enhance our collective impact.

**Position Overview:** Programs for School Instructors work as a team of educators at elementary and middle school campuses, providing guided recess and afterschool programming. Seasonally, they may facilitate immersive field trips to nearby forested land. These team members have an outstanding ability to forge connections with youth and support their social/emotional development, are excellent team players, and maintain a positive outlook while readily adapting to changing program circumstances.

**Positions are available at assistant, co-lead, and lead levels.** Whether you're a seasoned outdoor educator or new and excited to learn, we welcome you to apply.

### **Essential Duties and Responsibilities:**

#### **Assistant Instructor:**

- Assists nature based curriculum in a variety of settings
- Supports lead instructors with physical and emotional safety for participants
- Informs leadership of student conflict and social/emotional themes or concerns
- Role models respectful and collaborative play in student-directed activities
- Works outside in all weather (running, playing, etc)
- Upholds all current Wild Earth policies and procedures
- Identifies first aid needs and communicates with leadership
- Responds promptly to team communications
- Receives and offers feedback to foster effective teamwork

#### **Co-Lead / Lead Instructor:**

- Leads nature based curriculum in a variety of settings
- Ensures physical and emotional safety for participants
- Facilitates de-escalation with students in conflict and informs appropriate leadership of social/emotional themes or concerns
- Role models respectful and collaborative play in student-directed activities
- Works outside in all weather (running, playing, etc)
- Upholds all current Wild Earth policies and procedures
- Identifies first aid needs and communicates with leadership
- Responds promptly to team communications
- Receives and offers feedback to foster effective teamwork

### **Foundational Skills:**

#### **Assistant Instructor:**

- Ability to stay emotionally regulated in challenging situations
- Proactively communicates needs to leadership
- Manages time effectively
- Strong personal and professional commitment to equity and racial justice

- Commitment to creating a supportive & respectful environment, welcoming to those with identities historically excluded from outdoor ed
- Willingness to learn Wild Earth's approach to working with youth

**Co-Lead Instructor:**

- Ability to delegate responsibilities to staff when leading curriculum or activities
- Ability to build relationships collaboratively with students and school staff
- Ability to adjust instructing approach to dynamic programmatic and cultural needs
- Oriented to Wild Earth's pedagogical approach
- Consistently shows up with all foundational skills listed in Assistant Instructor position

**Lead Instructor**

- Seeks opportunity to further engage with program
- Centers programmatic goals and takes initiative when necessary for program success
- Proactively plans and communicates with team
- Ability to be placed with new and varied instructors to cultivate leadership
- Strong conflict navigation skills
- Embodies Wild Earth's pedagogical approach
- Consistently shows up with all foundational skills listed across instructor positions

**Bonus Skills**

- Competence with playground sports (ie: basketball, foursquare, soccer, etc.)
- Familiarity with youth pop culture
- Spanish language proficiency
- Experience in community based work
- Experience working with neurodivergent populations
- Experience with nature based crafts & activities

**Hours:** These are part time, per diem positions. Opportunities may be available Mondays-Thursdays, with various levels of commitment and engagement, including subbing.

**Compensation:** \$20/hour for assistant instructor positions; \$23-26/hour for co-lead / lead instructor positions, including prep & meeting time.

**Hiring Timeline:** Applications are processed on a rolling basis according to programmatic needs. Please complete our 'General Program Leader Positions' application at [www.wildearth.org/jobs](http://www.wildearth.org/jobs)

*Equal employment opportunity and having a diverse staff are fundamental principles at Wild Earth, where employment and promotional opportunities are based upon individual capabilities and qualifications without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, pregnancy, sexual orientation, age, national origin, marital status, citizenship, disability, veteran status or any other protected characteristic as established under law.*