



# Discovery Southeast

Hands-on Nature Education for Southeast Alaskans

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[DiscoverySoutheast.org](http://DiscoverySoutheast.org)

## Position Description

Job Title: Summer Outdoor Youth Educator

Location: Juneau, AK

Duration: 6/4/2015-8/7/2015

## Organization Background

Discovery Southeast provides a great opportunity to lead meaningful programs while working with, and learning from, outstanding educators and naturalists.

For 25 years Discovery Southeast has connected Southeast Alaskans to nature. The regional non-profit was started by outdoor leaders in Southeast Alaska who wanted to ensure that local residents, particularly children, were able to experience the same local grandeur that was available to visiting tourists. Today, with many of those same founders still involved, our programs teach elementary children to experience, be comfortable in, and explore nature with a field-based, hands-on approach. We strive to reach all Juneau youth, particularly those who might not otherwise be introduced to the outdoors at a young age.

## Description and Goals of Assignment:

The Outdoor Youth Educator will spend the majority of their time in the field leading elementary age children as they explore nature. This is part of Discovery Southeast's hands-on week-long outdoor education summer camp, Outdoor Explorers. The educator will work with a group of 12 children, ages 7-12, each week, engaging them with Juneau's natural areas through outdoor exploration, natural history, science based education, and environmental education games and activities. Educators will develop teaching, group management, and leadership skills, as well as knowledge of local areas, flora, and fauna in one of the most gorgeous, geographically interesting areas imaginable. Educators work directly with naturalists and other program staff in the field, and receive training and experience in inquiry based, hands-on field leadership and Southeast Alaska natural history. The educator is also responsible for minimal coordination and administration of the summer program and reports to the Executive or Program director.

The position is full time, with 40 hours a week at a rate of \$16 per hour. Higher hourly rate is possible for candidates applying for the below-described coordination responsibilities.

*This position has the opportunity to segue into a year-round position.* If interested and qualified in program coordination, the educator could help to develop and coordinate parts of the summer program with the current coordination staff, and then move to year-round program coordination at the end of the summer. Please note in your application materials if this is of interest.

## Responsibilities:

- Provide support for, and ensure the physical and emotional safety and well being of a group of up to 12 children

- Promote good decision making skills, self leadership, and a curiosity for the outdoors
- Prepare and facilitate fun, engaging lessons and activities with a focus on outdoor skills, natural history, and nature education
- Perform some administrative tasks in support of the summer day camp program, such as communicating with participant's parents and contacting local contractors

**Qualifications:**

- Experience with elementary age children, particularly in group or outdoor education settings
- Experience in, and comfort with, the outdoors, such as guiding, backcountry travel, or natural history interpretation
- Enthusiasm for our goal of providing children formative experiences outdoors and a strong connection with nature
- Comfort driving a 15 passenger van
- (At least) First Aid and Child/Infant CPR

Discovery Southeast provides regular trainings as well as on the job opportunities to train with experienced naturalists. Applicants will need to pass a background check before employment.

Interested candidates may submit a cover letter and resume to Shawn Eisele, at [executivedirector@discoverysoutheast.org](mailto:executivedirector@discoverysoutheast.org). More information about our programs is at [DiscoverySoutheast.org](http://DiscoverySoutheast.org).