

Environmental Studies Internship Opportunity Form

Organization: Thorne Nature Experience

Mailing Address: PO Box 19107 Boulder, CO 80308

Physical Address: 1466 N. 63rd Street Boulder, CO 80303

Contact person: Erin Saunders, Education Programs Director

Email: erin@thornenature.org **Phone:** 303-499-3647 ext. 101

Number of interns requested for Spring 2012: 2

Nature of project(s) and skills required:

Internship Title: Thorne Nature Experience Field Coordinator Intern
Employer: Thorne Nature Experience (Thorne), Boulder, CO
Job Status: Part time, Seasonal Internship for all eight weeks of camp program- June 4- August 3, 2012 (30-35 hours/week)
Pay Rate: Unpaid Internship with an opportunity to receive a small stipend of up to \$750 based on performance on completion of the internship
Reports to: Education Programs Director
Application Deadline: March 30, 2012 (early applications welcome)
Application Process: Please no phone inquiries. Additional information is available at www.thornenature.org. Questions regarding the position can be directed to erin@thornenature.org and will be responded to within 5 business days. To apply, submit a cover letter indicating position title together with a resume by mail or email to:
Thorne Nature Experience
Attn: Erin Saunders, Education Programs Director
P.O. Box 19107
Boulder, CO 80308
erin@thornenature.org

Thorne Mission and History:

Thorne Nature Experience is a non-profit organization that is committed to building Earth stewardship by connecting youth to nature through joyful, hands-on, place-based, environmental education experiences. Thorne believes in discovery, exploration, and a connection to the natural world. Founded in 1954, Thorne has a rich history and has reached more than 200,000 children and adults through its three programs: In-School, Summer Camp, and Field Trips.

Thorne Summer Camp Program Description:

Established in 1957, Thorne Summer Camp reaches more than 1,400 youth each summer through field-based ecology “camp experiences” for kids ages 3-15. Learning takes place through hands-on, science-based, experiential activities. Popular classes like, Mud Mucking, At Home in the Woods, and Bird Banding utilize local prairie grasslands, evergreen forests, and wetland habitats as a classroom and enable youth to connect with and learn about nature. Thorne Summer Camp is licensed by the State of Colorado Division of Childcare.

Expectation for All Interns:

Support the Thorne mission and exhibit a commitment to:

- Working collaboratively, with integrity and respect for fellow employees, associates, and our communities,
- Embracing personal responsibility and accountability for your role at Thorne.

Internship Purpose:

The Thorne Summer Camp Field Coordinator Intern provides program support for Thorne Summer Camp Instructors and Thorne Staff, contributing to our mission of connecting youth to nature through joyful, hands-on, place-based environmental education experiences. The Field Coordinator will spend the majority of their time in the field, and act as the go-to person whenever support is needed.

Principal Responsibilities:

- Oversee Thorne Summer Camp program in the field, ensuring safety of all participants, students, and teachers
- Support Thorne Summer Camp Instructors in the field with supplies, added supervision, and emergency transportation
- Act as a “go to” person for Instructors during their time in the field, circulating between and checking in with Thorne “camp experience” groups
- Participate in the drop off and pick up protocol for Thorne Summer Camp- assisting parents, Instructors, and Education Programs Director
- Act as a role model for all Instructors, participants, and Teaching Assistants, illustrating appropriate behavior and environmental ethics
- Encourage a joyful, safe, meaningful outdoor experience for participants.
- Attend Mandatory Thorne Summer Camp Instructor training on May 30, 2012 and site-specific training on May 31, 2012- Intern must attend a total of 15 hours of professional development training as required by the Colorado Department of Social Services child care licensing standards (Thorne Instructor trainings are included)
- Complete all required forms and submit all required information needed by Thorne for compliance with Colorado Department of Social Services child care licensing standards
- Support Thorne Summer Camp Instructors in overnight camps up to 4 times in the summer

Desired Outcomes:

- Contribute towards successful delivery of Thorne Summer Camp and the achievement of Thorne’s mission
- Contribute towards achieving 90% or better positive rating of Thorne Summer Camp’s ability to connect participants to nature
- Contribute towards achieving 90% or better positive rating that Thorne Summer Camp pick-up/drop-off process was good or fantastic

- Contribute towards achieving 90% or better positive rating that Thorne Summer Camp Instructors feel supported by Thorne Staff and interns in the field
- Contribute towards achieving 95% or better positive rating that parents will send their child to a Thorne Summer Camp in the future
- Contribute towards achieving 95% or better positive rating that Thorne Summer Camp was well managed and well organized

Internship Interrelationships:

- Thorne Staff and Summer Camp Instructors
- Thorne Summer Camp Participants
- Thorne Summer Camp Parents and Families
- Volunteers and Interns
- General Public
- Guest Speakers and Community Partners

Desired Skills and Abilities:

- Strong communication skills with adults and children
- Good organizational skills and ability to handle multiple tasks and roles, patiently and professionally

Desired Behavioral Traits and Attitudes:

- Team player, fun, outgoing, passionate, organized, creative, resourceful, critical thinker, results-oriented, and self-motivated
- Strong interest in and/or with some experience in environmental education in informal settings
- Passionate about Thorne's mission and environmentally concerned and aware

Minimum Qualifications:

- Must be 18 or older
- A minimum of 480 hours of full time or equivalent part-time satisfactory and verifiable experience with school-age children is strongly preferred
- Preference for those with or working on a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Education, Environmental Studies, Biology, Geology, Education, or related field
- Background check and fingerprints submitted and cleared by the Colorado Department of Human Services (Thorne helps and pays for this)
- Current CPR, First Aid, and Universal Precautions certifications (Thorne holds and pays for trainings)
- Medication Administration Certification and Delegation by Thorne's nurse (Thorne holds and pays for trainings)
- Minorities encouraged to apply

Dates of Thorne Summer Camp "Experiences":

- June 4-August 3, 2012 (skipping the week of July 4th)

Special Requirements:

- Must commit to working at least 30-35 hours for all eight weeks of Thorne Summer Camp
- Must have a personal car and be willing to drive to various locations (Thorne reimburses for mileage)
- Additional time may be required as necessary for overnight camps including evening work and long hours up to four times during the summer

Compensation:

- This is an unpaid Internship, however you will receive a small stipend (up to \$750 based on performance and completion) and you will complete 260 or more documented hours of professional environmental education experience through this internship.
- Thorne Staff is willing to fill out required forms for school credit, act as a reference for Intern, and/or write a letter of recommendation if needed.

Please see Thorne's Summer Camp catalog on-line at www.thornenature.org for "camp experience" times and descriptions