



The Greater Gig Harbor Foundation (GGHF) a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization, Section 509 (a)(2) public charity serving the greater Gig Harbor and Key Peninsula communities is a young, dynamic community foundation. Our **GGHF Curious by Nature School** exemplifies the mission, vision, and values of GGHF and extends the foundation's community impact through its nature-based educational programs for children ages 2 to 6. The unique learning environment provides educational and collaborative activities designed to engage children in the community and, more broadly, the world around them - helping them to develop strong connections with nature that will make a

difference in their learning and in their lives for years to come. Entrusted to teach and care for the children of our community awards the highest confidence that families of our community can provide. Our teachers are not merely staff, they are mirrors of the School and the holistic community values of the Foundation.

LEAD TEACHER POSITION

Job Title: *Lead Teacher*

- Reports to the Director and works closely with the Head Teacher.
- Weekly hours: Monday through Friday, approximately 12 to 30 instruction hours per week, plus weekly planning and prep time. Classroom assignment to be determined based on preference and availability.
- **The position will begin August 20, 2018.**

Principal Duties:

Teaching responsibilities generally include the instruction and supervision of children in activities designed to promote social, physical, and intellectual growth following the philosophies of GGHF Curious by Nature School. Above all this position requires love, patience and respect for children. Duties will include:

- Plan and carry out daily programs in an inviting and safe manner, including helping children stay comfortable in inclement weather conditions and managing risk in outdoor setting.
- Effectively manage child, classroom, family and educator partnerships.
- Encourage an appreciation for nature and environment, and a love of the outdoors with children.
- Teach and develop nature-based curriculum under the direction of the Director or Head Teacher.
- Conduct assessment methods include observation, documentation, parent conferences, portfolio and other assessment tools, and ensures program meets standards.
- Effectively communicate with families via email, weekly newsletter and family portal.
- Work with assistant teacher and program staff to facilitate daily classroom preparation and cleaning duties.
- Train or mentor assistant teacher, substitutes, interns, and classroom volunteers.
- Plan for equipment and supply needs for the classroom. Monthly supply budget provided.

Building community:

- Develop and maintain positive partnerships with parents/grandparents/guardians, students, School and GGHF Board, and community organizations whose missions or services are complementary.
- Maximize working with area community groups, building on the principle of interdependence of school and community.
- Encourage each child's family to be actively involved.

- Create a culture of respect, inclusion and a common commitment to the greater community.

The ideal candidates will have 3+ years teaching experience and formal training in Early Childhood Education OR a combination of education and experience that demonstrates the required knowledge, skills and abilities required. We are looking for *Lead Teachers* with the following characteristics:

- Experience teaching 2-5 year olds in a classroom or outdoor-based program.
- Experience developing and implementing lesson plans, and adapting lessons to outdoor classrooms.
- Enjoys teaching and learning outdoors in all types of weather.
- Committed to the School's approach to early learning of child-directed and play-based learning.
- Familiarity with emergent curriculum and Reggio Emilia practice.
- Engaging communication and interpersonal skills with students, families, and staff.
- Reliable, consistent, team player, nurturing, and a positive attitude.
- Passionate, creative, intentional, and reflective in their work with children and adults.
- Talents in the arts, storytelling, singing songs, playing instruments, multilingual, wilderness skills a plus!

Other requirements:

- Able to work occasional weekends and evenings (i.e., community events, Open Houses, conferences, etc.).
- Attends training opportunities and monthly staff meetings as provided and scheduled.
- Ability to lift children up to 40 pounds.
- Ability to stand, bend and stoop for prolonged periods of time, and hike on varying terrains.
- Maintains the School's professional attitude and work behavior.
- Observes all rules and regulations of the School and local, state or national regulatory agencies pertaining to the health, safety and care of children.
- Pass the Washington State background check upon hire.
- Current CPR and First Aid Certification upon hire or within 30 days of hire.

Compensation/Benefits:

- Starting salary is commensurate with experience/education.
- Paid training: monthly on-site professional development and annual staff training, and CPR and First Aid Certification.
- Tuition discount with child enrollment at the School.
- Discounts on outdoor clothing; school t-shirt and vest provided.
- Opportunities to work hours during school break camps.
- Participation in GGHF sponsored events (i.e., Cider Swig, The Green Gig, Cinco de Mayo, The Big Sports Gig, etc.).

To apply, please submit a single document that includes a job-specific cover letter, resume outlining experience and education, and professional references to:

GGHF Curious by Nature School

7191 Wagner Way, Suite 102, Gig Harbor, WA 98335

Or by email to: curiousbynature@gigharborfoundation.org

The position will remain open until filled. **The first round of interviews will begin July 23rd.**

GGHF Curious by Nature School is an equal opportunity employer.