

# ABUNDANT BEGINNINGS

[www.abundantbeginnings.org](http://www.abundantbeginnings.org) | [jobs@abundantbeginnings.org](mailto:jobs@abundantbeginnings.org)

**Position:** Head TK-1st Grade Teacher

**Location:** Oakland, CA

**Expected Hourly Wage:** Based on Experience

## **Position Summary:**

The Head TK-1st Grade Teacher is responsible for the academic, social-emotional growth and development of all children in their care, which includes children from four to seven years old, in a mixed age environment, who are diverse racially, developmentally, and temperamentally; this job requires responding to them all appropriately, kindly, and holistically. As well as integrating principles of justice, respect, and liberation into the school environment.

## **Who We Are:**

Abundant Beginnings' Forest Freedom school is an inclusive, social-justice forest school. We believe it is a child's right to explore their interests and create lasting relationships within an atmosphere of support and freedom. Our central commitments are to provide education that centers social and environmental justice, creates constructive engagements across difference, and cultivates connections to the earth and our ancestral ecological practices.

We educate our children through a queer ecofeminist lens. In the words of Greta Gaard, this lens requires embracing diversity and "building coalitions for creating a democratic, ecological culture based on our shared liberation." We support our children in this pursuit on the individual level, the community level, and the environmental level. We are committed to growing children rooted in trust, love, and justice - blossoming in independence.

## **Essential Duties:**

- Develop weekly plans, and implements age appropriate curriculum (lesson plan) to nurture and stimulate all domains of children's development in their care, with a focus on topics culturally relevant to students. Further, on an on-going basis, evaluates and improves the materials, field trips, projects, and guest teachers to create opportunities following the changing needs of our developing students.
- Design and lead circles, including but not limited to songs and age-appropriate engagement with social justice and liberatory topics.
- Provide responsive care to all children by adapting daily caregiving routines and plans to the interests and needs of the individual child and the group.
- Provide consistent, immediate feedback to student learning and asks analytical questions that elicit students' responses that incorporate prior knowledge, life experience and interests that are directly related to the content objective.
- Prepare developmental progress reports and parent teacher conferences.
- Develop partnerships with student's caregivers to engage and encourage parent participation in program.

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- Demonstrate cultural competency and respect for the child's background by incorporating the cultural, linguistic and familial values and beliefs into the childcare program and lesson plans.
- Facilitate student conflict resolution using non violent practices
- Support and mentor Assistant Teacher(s).
- Participate in ongoing development and evaluation of the School's goals and objectives
- In accordance with our community philosophy, the person filling this position may occasionally be required to carry out or assist with other tasks in addition to the duties listed on this job description

## Education Requirements

- Master's Degree in Education
- California Certified Teacher, or currently in pursuit of
- Special education coursework preferred

## Physical Requirements\*

- Often required to stand, sit, and lift children; reach with hands and arms; and stoop, kneel, crouch, bend, squat or crawl.
- Set-up and take-down of school equipment and project areas everyday.
- Able to lift and carry up to 40 pounds.
- Able to hike through rough terrain, while assisting, and sometimes carrying, students.
- Will be required to drive a motor vehicle. Having a vehicle is a plus.
- Able to perform first aid, when necessary.
- Able to be present for the full school day (including set-up and clean-up spans from Monday - Friday 8:00am-3:45pm).

*\*Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable qualified individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.*

## Preferred Experience and Skills

- Skill or experience in: art, wilderness preparedness, or gardening.
- Experience with inclusion of special needs community members
- Experience or interest in creating social justice curriculum and holding an anti-racist framework and a commitment to continuous personal anti-oppression work.

**LGBTQ & POC strongly encouraged to apply**

**Please read through the website at [www.abundantbeginnings.org](http://www.abundantbeginnings.org) to get a better understanding of what our community is like before applying.**

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## **For Consideration**

Please email [jobs@abundantbeginnings.org](mailto:jobs@abundantbeginnings.org) with the answers to the following questions and attach resume (2 education related references included).

1. Please tell us about your background working with children.
2. What is something you have a passion, skill, or experience with that you would like to share with our community? (Can you dance? Do you participate in direct actions? Do you build the most epic sand castles ever?)
3. How would you explain white supremacy to a 4-year-old? (Assume they've asked)
4. A three and six-year-old have been arguing, and one has shoved the other. How might you intervene?
5. What does your ideal classroom look like?

Thank you for your interest.