Core Educator
Full time/Salary DOE/Benefits
Sierra Nevada Journeys – Sacramento Division
Preferred applicants will submit resumes by June 30, 2017 – Early applications are encouraged

WHO ARE WE?
Sierra Nevada Journeys is built on a simple premise: Science education is a necessity, and nature’s classroom is a great place to teach it. Our mission is to deliver innovative outdoor, science-based education programs for youth to develop critical thinking skills and to inspire natural resource stewardship. To achieve this mission, SNJ offers a range of programming to students in northern Nevada and California:

- Our credentialed teachers create innovative, engaging curriculum for 1st -6th graders, teach in the classroom, and lead field studies at local nature sites.
- We host students, teachers, and families at our Outdoor School located at Grizzly Creek Ranch, near Portola, CA, and run an epic summer camp for 8-17 year olds.
- We train teachers on how to bring engaging STEM lessons to their classrooms as well as how to utilize the outdoor classroom.
- Through our Family Science/STEM Nights, we involve families to reinforce classroom concepts.

Here at SNJ we believe that outdoor science education is not just a luxury but a necessity. Over 55% of the students we serve are from low-income families, and building capacity to fundraise enables us to help under-served students across our region.

WHO ARE YOU?
Our program participants reflect the diversity within our communities, and we value the same on our staff. Whether you’re an urbanite or mountain (wo)man, from the east coast, west coast, North Pole or Mars, you’ll fit right in. Though we come from all sorts of places, what bonds the SNJ family is a deep commitment to our mission and the professional skillset to execute it.

WHERE WE OPERATE
SNJ has three locations: our headquarters in Reno, NV our science campus in Portola, CA, and a satellite office in Sacramento, CA. We serve students along the I-80 corridor from Sacramento, CA to Fallon, NV, with the majority of students clustered around our three locations.

Sierra Nevada Journeys is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.
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ABOUT SACRAMENTO
The Core Educator works at our satellite office in Sacramento, CA. Sacramento is located 90 miles from San Francisco, 105 miles from Lake Tahoe, and is the state capitol of California. Harvard researchers have named Sacramento as “America’s Most Diverse City”. There’s an easy international airport 11 miles from downtown, but with everything to do in Sacramento you might not need it too often! From art to food to events to history, Sacramento’s culture will keep you busy year-round. If you decide you’ve had enough of city life and want to connect with the outdoors you don’t have to go far – Sacramento tied with San Francisco and Boston for third place in a rating of our nation’s best park systems.

JOB DESCRIPTION
SNJ is seeking a dynamic education professional to help expand the program base for Sierra Nevada Journeys in Sacramento, CA. This position requires a motivated individual with an engaging personality and an insistence on excellence who is passionate about building scientific literacy and critical thinking capacity through outdoor science education across classrooms that mirror the demographics in Northern California. We are seeking someone prepared to teach in a variety of settings (classroom, outdoors, Family Science Nights), recruit and lead volunteers and interns, and support the overall operations of the Sacramento division. The position requires an individual who is able to thrive independently and work well on a team, and who is committed to supporting a non-profit on the cutting edge of the Informal Education industry. The Core Educator will report directly to SNJ’s Sacramento Program Director.

AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY
• Education 85%
  o Teach SNJ programs in the classroom and field and lead Family Science Nights. Typical programs may include the following:
    ▪ Classrooms Unleashed programs consist of 4 lesson units based on topics including Watershed, Earth Science and Life Science, and culminate with an outdoor field study at a local natural area.
    ▪ Outdoor field studies include leading trail groups of 12-20 students through a variety of field-based science activities during ½ day field trips to local natural areas.
    ▪ Family Science Night events hosted by SNJ at schools for parent engagement. Lead science stations and engineering challenges.
  o Deliver and analyze student assessment and teacher program evaluations for program feedback and improvement.
  o Summers: Depends on applicant. Program development, curriculum writing, and/or supporting, teaching or observing other SNJ programs.
• Volunteer Recruitment/Training 15%
  o Recruit volunteers and interns to support at Family Science Nights and Classrooms Unleashed field studies.
    ▪ Represent SNJ at career and internship fairs, describing volunteer, internship, and
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paid opportunities with SNJ
- Conduct outreach to local businesses and volunteer organizations to recruit volunteers
- Support preparation and execution of volunteer and internship trainings

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS
- 2+ years teaching experience (credential required, California preferred)
- Excellent written, phone and in-person professional communication skills.
- Current Red Cross CPR and First Aid (or willing to fulfill this requirement prior to start date)
- Ability to pass background check
- Passionate commitment to providing opportunities for/working with kids of all backgrounds
- Ability to thrive in an environment that is fast-paced, creative, dynamic, and growing
- The ability to work independently with a high degree of initiative
- Ability to lift up to 30 pounds and hike 4-5 miles with a backpack
- Reliable vehicle (ability to drive to school and field sites in and around a large city)

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS
- Higher education degree in related field
- Wilderness First Responder certification

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS
- Dynamic work environment
- Fun/fulfilling career
- Innovative company focused on improving outdoor education delivery
- Full salary and Medical, Dental and Vision benefits

Sierra Nevada Journeys is committed to seeking and sustaining a diverse workplace, and to the principles that promote inclusive practices. To apply, please send resume, cover letter, and list of three professional references to jobs@sierranevadajourneys.org. In the subject line of your email please include “California Core Educator” and your last name.

We are proud to be a 2014-2016 finalist for Best Places to Work, and a GuideStar Gold Rated nonprofit.