

Residential Outdoor Science Instructor

Salary \$72 to \$85 per/day DOE (Room & Board provided)

Full Time: Seasonal Position August 21-November 2017

Sierra Nevada Journeys Grizzly Creek Ranch Campus, Portola, California



### 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 full mission statement 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 expeditions.
- Our Residential Outdoor Science Instructors 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.



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### ABOUT PORTOLA

The Residential Outdoor Science Instructor works at our Grizzly Creek Ranch Campus in Portola, California. The campus is situated among 1,500 acres of pristine Yellow Pine forest. Built in 2003, Grizzly Creek Ranch offers excellent program resources, including a challenge course, hiking trails, archery range, and pond. The campus is within convenient travel distance to Lake Tahoe, Reno, Reno/Tahoe Airport and Plumas National Forest. It is also within 3 hours of Sacramento and 4 hours of the San Francisco area. Instructors live in houses SNJ rents in downtown Portola, CA, about 2mi from campus.

### JOB DESCRIPTION

This is a seasonal position with multiple facets (or multiple roles and responsibilities). During the fall and spring seasons, instructors deliver residential, 1-5 day Outdoor Science educational programs primarily serving 5th and 6th grades from regional elementary schools. All of our lessons are hands-on science and collaborative problem solving based with a focus on critical thinking, science, and environmental stewardship. Instructors are responsible for leading and educating a group of 12 – 15 students throughout the week, including facilitating large group activities, leading meals and night programs.

During the summer season, SNJ delivers both traditional summer camp programs and tailored programs for special needs and leadership development groups. SNJ's traditional, week-long summer camp programs are designed with an educational and experiential focus for our resident campers. Instructors supervise the campers overnight, as well as facilitate activities such as archery, swimming, kayaking, campfires, and skits. For leadership development groups, instructors will use SNJ's challenge course to facilitate leadership experiences and develop collaborative problem solving skills. Instructors also assist our special needs organizations by adapting traditional camp activities to provide an enriching experience for their campers. Many of our community partners also bring participants to campus on the weekends in the fall and spring and instructors work with them to meet their program goals.

Instructors will be directly responsible for ensuring that attending schools' and campers' educational outcomes are met. Instructors are supervised by the Program Coordinators. Join a staff that is committed to constantly improving our outstanding outdoor education programs!

**For more information about this position please visit [www.sierranevadajourneys.org/rosifaqs](http://www.sierranevadajourneys.org/rosifaqs)**

Please send resume, cover letter, and three professional references to [jobs@sierranevadajourneys.org](mailto:jobs@sierranevadajourneys.org). In the subject line of your email please include "Instructor" and your last name.



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### AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

- Facilitate high quality, standards based outdoor education programs (day and evening)
- Facilitate the challenge course to achieve collaborative problem solving goals
- Be proficient in all outdoor school curriculum and teaching methods
- Attend trainings delivered by the Program Director and Professional Development team
- Deliver and organize student assessments and related paperwork
- Be able to deliver programs effectively while working with chaperones, teachers, community group staff members, and other instructors as needed
- Provide overnight supervision to SNJ resident campers
- Lead meals and sing camp songs before meals
- Work Support Staff duties when assigned, including but not limited to: creating personalized science notebooks for schools, working on campus projects, revamping curriculum, etc.
- Act as overnight on call staff/evening supervisor as needed
- Clear cabins, inventory program supplies, and participate in debriefs after each program
- Support campus operations as assigned (maintenance, food service and housekeeping)
- Other duties as assigned

### REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Minimum 21 years old
- A passion for working with students and making a difference through education!
- Ability to work irregular hours and days/nights in order to meet group needs
- Bachelor's Degree in related field or relevant work experience
- Experience teaching and leading outdoor environmental education programs and/or classroom instruction
- The ability to take initiative, work independently, and have a positive "can do" attitude
- Ability to live and work positively with other staff members
- Comfortable being 50 feet off the ground on challenge course high elements
- Ability to pass background check
- Ability to lift up to 30 pounds and hike up to 7 miles
- Current CPR and First Aid certification
- Willingness to obtain lifeguard certification (course conducted by SNJ)

### COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

- Live, work, explore and recreate in beautiful Plumas County
- Innovative company focused on improving outdoor education delivery
- Competitive Salary (depends on experience)
- Professional development towards outdoor education leadership or classroom teaching goals
- Housing is provided in Portola
- Meals are provided on campus while the kitchen is serving clients
- Prodeals for many outdoor companies



*We are proud to be a 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 finalist for Best Places to Work, and a GuideStar Gold Rated non-profit.*



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