

Painted Oak Nature School

174 Lambertville Hopewell Road
Hopewell, NJ 08525
www.paintedoak.org • 609.466.1010

Job Title: Early Childhood Lead Teacher

Job Type: Full-time, for the 2022-2023 School Year

The mission of Painted Oak Nature School is to be a nurturing community of learners that values kindness, cooperation, curiosity, imagination, and respect for all living things. We cultivate habits that instill confidence, capability, and self-reliance. Through daily interactions with the environment, our school promotes a holistic nature-based education for preschoolers, grade schoolers, and their families, that foster deep connections with the natural world and to each other.

Early Childhood Lead Teacher

This is a full-time position, without medical benefits. A typical work day is 8:30am-3:30pm, Monday-Friday, with a staff meeting from 3:30-5:30 twice a month.

As a nature school, the majority of the day is spent outside in nature, rain or shine. All staff at Painted Oak have a love of nature and the outdoors. Enrollment of each preschool class is capped at 12 children, with a Lead Teacher and a Support Teacher.

You're perfect for Painted Oak if you...

- enjoy learning and continuing to grow as an educator
- like spending time outdoors with children, no matter the weather
- use the natural world around you as a source of inspiration
- view students of all ages as capable learners who can help guide their own education
- enjoy thinking and working creatively within a colleague group
- love helping children learning through inquiry and questioning
- value the social and emotional health of each child

Responsibilities of the Early Childhood Lead Teacher will include:

- Providing developmentally appropriate education to children (age 3.5-5 yrs) in a progressive, inquiry-based approach inspired by the outdoor world and natural experiences.
- Ability to show a 'Story of Learning' through the use of documentation.
- Demonstrating confidence and competence in regard to risky play experiences for young children.
- Maintaining a positive attitude for children and families while supporting emergent learning in an outdoor setting in all weather conditions.
- Communicating the day's learning plan and expectations with the Support Teacher.
- Maintaining a safe, clean, learning environment and assure the wellbeing and safety of the children in his/her care.
- Attending appropriate instructor-training workshops.
- Follow all rules and regulations according to the State of New Jersey Department of Education.
- Promoting school mission, goals, activities, and events.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university
- Teaching experience with young children, ages 2-5 years
- Ability to work effectively and productively as part of a team
- Must be able to lift objects weighing up to 40 lbs. on occasion (the weight of a small child)
- Must feel comfortable standing for extended periods of time, as well as walking, sitting, climbing stairs, stooping, kneeling and crouching.
- Must be able to hike up to 5 miles.
- Must pass fingerprinting and background check.
- Must appreciate the outdoors!

To Apply:

Please include cover letter, resume *and* 2 professional references to the Director of School, Alison Phillips, directorpons@gmail.com.

Accepting application packets until positions are filled.

Painted Oak Nature School is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer and is committed to excellence through diversity in its staff. We strongly encourage all qualified individuals to apply.

Benefits:

- 10 month salaried contract; paid federal holidays and snow days.
- Paid time off.
- First Aid and CPR training included.
- Increasing tuition discount for children of staff based on years of commitment to Painted Oak.
- Individual mentoring on a regular basis as you continue to grow in your journey as an educator.
- Planning and documentation time built into your schedule.
- Work/Life Balance - optional exercise classes and activities dedicated to a healthy lifestyle offered regularly.
- Annual stipend for Professional Development.
- Professional Development provided for you on a regular basis during staff meetings and activities.
- Additional optional staff community building events offered regularly.
- Small class sizes, allowing for strong relationships with children and their families.