



# Learning Outside

*Growing deep connections between children and the natural world*

## **Outdoor Education Internships at Learning Outside**

Learning Outside offers internship opportunities for both high school and college students. Our internships provide direct, hands-on experience learning from and working side-by-side with our exceptional staff of outdoor educators, naturalists and artists. Our education internships offer students a unique opportunity to develop new skills and to learn about nature-based activities and programming. Interns receive ongoing mentoring to support their learning and growth.

Internships are unpaid and are offered during our summer camps. They require a multi-week commitment from participants to assure the time needed to secure a meaningful, in-depth learning experience for each intern. Internships qualify as community service learning hours for high school students and often apply toward college work/study requirements at universities or colleges. High school interns are selected because they have already shown the leadership potential, initiative and skills required of an intern through their participation on our Eco-Crew. In selecting college interns, we recruit individuals whose college studies show a commitment to environmental education, who have relevant past experience, and who have shown an interest/commitment to working with children.

Our Outdoor Education Internships include opportunities to learn:

- Planning and program design for children's outdoor learning experiences in nature.
- Strategies and techniques that support youngsters as they explore, work and play together outdoors; an active learning environment.
- Information about our native plants, animals and habitats.
- Nature games and activities.
- Daily rituals that support learning and that foster community-building and inclusion across our multiage groupings.
- Protocols that maximize children's opportunities for self-directed discovery and exploration while concurrently keeping each youngster, and the group, safe.
- Differentiated activity plans to meet the diverse needs and interests present in any group.

Interns attend an orientation session as well as participating in pre-planning sessions with instructors for each camp they participate in. Intern hours during camp weeks are 8:00 – 4:00 or a little later, as needed.

Some of our interns apply to return for additional internship experiences with us during subsequent summers. When appropriate and do-able, we work to offer highly qualified 'returning interns' a paid internship their second year.

To apply for a Learning Outside Internship, please contact [wendy@learningoutside.org](mailto:wendy@learningoutside.org).