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Pioneer Cabin Job Description

Summary: Since 1933, the Battle Creek Outdoor Education Center has been serving students in Michigan. We are hiring two outdoor educators to work for the Pioneer Cabin 3rd grade day program. A class will spend a whole day with Ma and Pa Merrill making lunch, helping with chores, and learning about early nineteenth century daily life in Michigan. We are looking for one man and one woman to play historically accurate characters. Preference given to those who can commit to multiple seasons.

Qualifications:

College degree (BA/BS). Education, history, or recreation fields preferred. At least one year of experience working with children in a formal teaching setting and/or informal camp-type setting. Experience with historical reenactment a plus though not necessary.

Requirements:

Complete all requirements for employment with EduStaff This includes but is not limited to drug screen, fingerprints, background check, and online learning modules. Participate in staff training.

Expectations:

Be energetic and enthusiastic! Be a team player

Exhibit safe, responsible and mature behavior and follow all OEC policies.

Responsibilities

- Portray Harlowe "Pa" and Ada "Ma" Merrill, the first homesteaders in the local township in the year 1838. Stay in character the entire 5 hour long program.
- Describe how your characters journeyed to Michigan, their reliance on the natural world, and the development of the local government.
- With assistance from the students, prepare lunch consisting of stew, apple sauce, corn bread, homemade butter and water. Have chaperones supervise student's knife use.
- Describe common household tasks and explain the uses of day to day items. Supervise students working on house chores.
- Demonstrate the use of common period tools (2 man saw, auger, draw knife, hatchet) and then supervise students using the tools.
- Demonstrate candle and soap making.
- Describe food preservation while visiting the smoker and root cellar.
- Tell stories about pioneer life to engage students, parents, and teachers. Convey information from these stories which relates to the appropriate GLCEs.
- Clean up dishes and homestead after group departs. Reset for the next day.

Compensation and Work Dates:

Pay is \$80/day. Spring season is April – early June.

The primary Social Studies GLCE guideline:

Use a variety of primary and secondary sources to construct a historical narrative about daily life in the early settlements of Michigan. (3H3.0.7)

Additional Social Studies GLCE met include:

- Describe the causal relationships between three events in Michigan’s past (e.g., Erie Canal, more people came, statehood). (3 – H3.0.3)
- Use informational text and visual data to compare how American Indians and settlers in the early history of Michigan adapted to, used, and modified their environment. (3 – H3.0.5)
- Use a variety of sources to describe interactions that occurred between American Indians and the first European explorers and settlers in Michigan. (3 – H3.0.6)
- Use cardinal directions (north, south, east, west) to describe the relative location of significant places in the immediate environment. (3 – G1.0.1)
- Describe how people adapt to, use, and modify the natural resources of Michigan. (3 – G5.0.2)
- Give an example of how Michigan state government fulfills one of the purposes of government (e.g., protecting individual rights, promoting the common good, ensuring equal treatment under the law). (3 - C1.0.1)
- Analyze how Michigan’s location and natural resources influenced its economic development (e.g., how waterways and other natural resources have influenced economic activities such as mining, lumbering, automobile manufacturing, and furniture making). (H, G) (3 – E1.0.3)
- Describe how entrepreneurs combine natural, human, and capital resources to produce goods and services in Michigan. (H, G) (3 – E1.0.3)
- Explain the role of business development in Michigan’s economic future (3 – E1.0.5)

To apply, please send resume and contact information for 4 professional references to Matthew Santner, OEC Events Coordinator oecevents@battlecreekpublicschools.org

More information can be found on our website at www.clearlakecamp.org.