

Position: Science Educator

Organization: Asombro Institute for Science Education (Las Cruces, New Mexico)

Hours and Duration: This is a salaried, full-time position for one year with a high probability of extension contingent on performance and funding. Preferred start date is September 1, although an earlier or later date is possible.

Reports to: Science Education Program Leader

Scope of Position: The nonprofit Asombro Institute for Science Education is seeking an exceptional, full-time science educator. The Science Educator works with other staff members, professional scientists, teachers, and volunteers to deliver Asombro's award-winning, inquiry-based science education programs (primarily classroom and schoolyard lessons as well as some field trips) to the diverse student population of the border region in southern New Mexico. The Science Educator must be excited to share the wonders of science and the desert to K-12 students through fun, hands-on, unique, standards-aligned lessons. Must be creative, adaptable, and willing to work nontraditional hours on occasion. This position requires excellent communication skills, willingness to be a team player, and excitement that no workday will ever be the same.

Major Job Responsibilities:

- 1) Prepare for and deliver Asombro's award-winning science education programs (including classroom lessons, field trips to Asombro's 935-acre Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park, and public programs) to K-12 students throughout New Mexico (approx. 90%). Some work for this position will be with Spanish-English bilingual students and English learners.
- 2) Assist with other Asombro science education and administrative projects, such as teacher professional development workshops, collaborative projects with other regional organizations, lesson revision and development, communication activities, and other duties as needed (approx. 10%).

Required Skills and Experience:

The successful candidate will be an excellent educator, skilled at communicating scientific practices and natural science concepts in an age-appropriate manner to K-12 students and teachers in a variety of settings. Spanish fluency is desired but not required. The Science Educator must be able to work independently on assigned tasks as well as collaboratively as part of a diverse team. Other requirements include:

- A Bachelor's degree in natural science, education, or related field
- 2+ years experience teaching science using hands-on, inquiry-based methods to K-12 students
- Comfortable teaching and working both in classrooms and outdoors
- Excitement about working with Spanish-speaking students and finding ways to communicate science concepts to English learners
- Extremely well organized and self-motivated
- Exemplary collaboration skills
- Working knowledge of common software such as Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Pages
- Ability to carry 30+ pounds
- Valid U.S. driver's license
- Must pass a background check

Other desirable qualifications:

- Spanish fluency
- Familiarity with Next Generation Science Standards
- Knowledge of desert ecology

Organizational Information: The Asombro Institute for Science Education is a 30-year-old nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing natural science literacy through engaging, place-based education. Asombro's seven staff members deliver hands-on, inquiry-based science education programs to more than 25,000 K-12 students, 800

teachers, and 700 other adults annually. Most programs are hands-on lessons delivered in classrooms and schoolyards, but Asombro also delivers lessons remotely and conducts teacher workshops, public events, and field trips to our 935-acre Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park. Asombro strives to provide inclusive and equitable education by removing barriers to access. While the topics and formats of programs vary widely, all Asombro programs are (1) inquiry-based, (2) related to current research through partnerships with scientists, (3) focused on local phenomena and examples, (4) developed with intentional consideration of diversity, equity, and inclusion issues, and (5) aligned with Next Generation Science Standards and other national education standards.

Terms: The Asombro Institute for Science Education is an equal opportunity employer. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, or disability.

Salary: \$34,000/year

Benefits: 12 paid holidays plus a generous 22 days (176 hours) of flexible, paid time off, which includes vacation and sick leave (increasing to 27 days after five years of service). Health and vision insurance available.

Application Deadline: We will review applications on Sept 1, and will continue to accept applications until position is filled.

To Apply: Submit a cover letter, resume, full contact information (including email address) for three references, and unofficial college transcripts. Please combine cover letter, resume, and reference information into a single Pages, Word, or PDF document (transcripts may be a separate file). Applications must include all of the components listed above to be considered.

Send application package to:

Kelly Steinberg, Education Director
kelly@asombro.org