

**Position:** Science Educator

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

**Hours and Duration:** This is a salaried, full-time, permanent position. Preferred start date between July 18 and August 15, although a later date would be considered. This is an onsite position in Las Cruces, New Mexico; remote working is not possible.

**Reports to:** Science Education Program Leader

**Scope of Position:** The nonprofit Asombro Institute for Science Education is seeking an exceptional, full-time K-12 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 and 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. The Science Educator will teach Asombro's existing lessons and will have opportunities to collaboratively develop new lessons when funding and time allow. 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. We're looking for someone excited to be greeted by students' cheers when walking into a classroom and proud to leave schools with rave reviews from teachers.

**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 32-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 22,000 K-12 students, 800 teachers, and 700 other adults annually. Our staff and volunteers approach every interaction as an opportunity to engage people in meaningful, exciting science to understand the world around us and offer them the chance to consider a new idea or career possibility. Asombro has close relationships with local schools and teachers, allowing us to understand and meet their needs. Most programs are [hands-on lessons delivered in classrooms](#) and schoolyards. 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:** Asombro believes that the health and well-being of staff members is the key to our success. Our generous benefits package includes 10 paid holidays, 14 days of vacation leave (increasing to 19 days after five years of service), and 8 days of sick leave for each full-time employee. Employees also receive health, vision, and life insurance.

**Application Deadline:** We will begin reviewing applications on July 5 and will continue to accept applications until position is filled.

**To Apply:** Submit a cover letter, resume, full contact information (including phone and 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