



## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

**JOB TITLE:** DISCOVERY ROOM NATURALIST

**SUPERVISOR:** Staff Naturalist on Duty

**PURPOSE:**

To act as a facilitator for visitors to the Discovery Room, encouraging them to participate in the various hands-on activities associated with the exhibits and the Exploration Station.

**DUTIES:**

1. To greet visitors and explain the options available to them in the Discovery Room. To encourage visitors to try the Learning Tree Challenge and autograph our Tree Habitat Expert Board.
2. To be available to help visitors find the answers to nature discovery questions. These may be questions about the specimens in the Learning Tree or questions about things they have observed in the sanctuary or in their own backyards etc.
3. To provide and demonstrate tools for visitors such as the Discovery Boxes, microscopes and Field Guides.
4. To provide security for the Discovery Room, by interacting with visitors and keeping an eye on biofacts, exhibit parts, and Discovery Boxes in the room. Your presence in the room will discourage visitors from misusing or taking equipment.
5. To maintain the Discovery Room by keeping things put away, cleaning up as necessary and helping to create an attractive area. (see list of daily to-dos).
6. To become familiar with all exhibits and information in the Discovery Room.
7. To become familiar with HANC programs/classes and inform visitors of these opportunities by supplying handouts.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

1. To complete Volunteer Orientation and Discovery Room Training and to attend other trainings as is possible, especially Nature 101 classes.
2. To enjoy helping and talking to people of all ages and backgrounds and sharing a love of nature.
3. To be available to work a half day on a regular basis. (time slots are 9:30-1 and 12:30-4, Tues. through Fri. 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.; 12 p.m. – 2 p.m. and 2 – 4 p.m. Sat. & Sun.- Discovery Room is closed Mon.)
4. To be prompt for your assigned work slot. Let staff (Lucien Bouffard or Melissa Geis) or the AMIGO Discovery Room Coordinator (Sheryl Marquez) know as far ahead as possible when you will not be able to fill your assigned times so that a replacement may be found.
5. To be a good role model as a curious and conserving naturalist. As a HANC representative, wear appropriate attire and your volunteer name badge.

**REWARD:**

Satisfaction from helping share nature with HANC visitors by acting as a host and a facilitator in the Discovery Room, interpreting exhibits and encouraging use of the hands-on exhibits. At the same time you will improve your own background knowledge of nature from researching and answering questions brought in by the public.