

# FIELD NATURALIST Inside the Outdoors

DIVISION OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES  
ORANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) serves some of Orange County's most vulnerable student populations and provides support and mandated fiscal oversight to 28 school districts serving more than 600 schools and approximately 450,000 students.

In addition to providing direct instruction to students through its own alternative and special education programs, OCDE administers an array of programs and services that are critical to the operations of local school districts and community colleges, facilitating professional development, legal guidance, payroll, career and technical education support, high-speed internet access, Local Control and Accountability Plan assistance and approval, resources for families, and student enrichment.

OCDE's vision, outlined in its most recent Strategic Plan, is that "Orange County students will lead the nation in college and career readiness and success." Department staff are working to achieve this goal in collaboration with educators at all levels of student development, from early childhood through higher education, and in partnership with families, businesses and community organizations.



**LEARN** more about OCDE and the Inside the Outdoors Unit by clicking [HERE](#)



**EXPLORE** how the Field Naturalist role functions and contributes to the education community by clicking [HERE](#)



**APPLY** for Field Naturalist - Inside the Outdoors and submit your online application by clicking [HERE](#)



**As a leader in hands-on environmental science and cultural history programs, the Inside the Outdoors (ITO) program has three major goals:**

- Support OCDE's 5-3-1 strategic plan by providing rigorous, hands-on environmental education programs to TK-12 students.
- Broaden participants' understanding of science ideas and environmental literacy related to the Next Generation Science Standards and California's Environmental Principles & Concepts.
- Foster student and community commitments to the protection of the natural environment.
- Inside the Outdoors field trip programs take place in parks and open spaces throughout Orange County. During our programs, Pre-K through 12th grade students step into the shoes of ecologists, geologists, and other scientists as they explore our local ecosystems and discover local cultural history.

#### **Selected candidates will:**

- Deliver environmental education and cultural history field trip programs to pre-K through 12th grade students from schools across Orange County.
- Enforce safety rules for students, classroom teachers, and chaperones.
- Hike on trails for up to one mile and traverse stairs and uneven terrain while carrying equipment.
- Work as a team with other ITO staff to set up and take down programs.
- Handle a variety of animals, including rats, snakes and insects
- Promote Inside the Outdoors and deliver programming during public community programs and partner events.

#### **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

- This is an entry-level position. The ideal candidate will have a bachelor's degree in a related subject such as biology, ecology, earth systems science, or education; and/or at least a year of related experience via volunteering, classes, or work experience.
- Experience working with school-age children, especially in an outdoors environment, is highly preferred.
- Experience working and collaborating with diverse communities is strongly desired.
- Must possess and maintain a valid California driver's license and the ability to maintain insurability under OCDE's vehicle insurance policy.

#### **COMPENSATION & BENEFITS**

- \$19.50 per hour
- Positions range from 2-5 days per week from September through June.
- Daily hours typically begin at 8:00 am and range from 4-8 hours per day. Occasional late afternoon, evening, and weekend shifts will be required.
- Limited summer work may be available.
- Though regularly scheduled during a traditional school calendar, this position is considered a temporary classification with hourly pay and no medical benefits.

Current CPR and First Aid Certificates are required within first two months of employment.



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