**Job Description**

**Job Title: Reptile & Amphibian Keeper**

**Reports To: Senior Reptile & Amphibian Keeper, Curator, and Director of Animal Operations**

FLSA Status: Non-exempt, full time

***SUMMARY:***

This position reports to the Senior Reptile & Amphibian Keeper, Curator, and Director of Animal Operations. This position will provide husbandry and maintenance for animals in the Reptile & Amphibian department, including but not limited to:

Adult Orinoco Crocodile, Crocodylus intermedius

Crocodile Monitors, Varanus salvadorii

West African Gaboon Viper, Bitis rhinoceros

Egyptian Cobras, Naja haje

West African Green Mamba, Dendroaspis viridis

Grand Cayman Iguanas, Cylclura lewisi

Crocodilians, Heloderms, Insects, Frogs, and Tortoises.

Must have paid experience with all aspects of venom husbandry. Salary based on years of paid experience.

**Animal Keeper hourly wages start at $15.36.**

***ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES***:

The employee in this position must be able to perform all the essential job duties listed below; however, this list not intended to cover all specific tasks of which an employee in this position may be expected to perform.

* Be a Zoo Ambassador always, maintaining the highest ethical expectations.
* Responsible for the husbandry and well-being of all specimens allocated to the department’s responsibility. Including participation in animal observation, animal training and enrichment, diet preparation and presentation, documentation enclosure maintenance and cleaning, with some construction to maintain animal areas in a sound and aesthetic fashion.
* Demonstrate and maintain high performance of daily keeper duties in animal care, habitat and housing maintenance, safety, record keeping and behavioral husbandry to ensure optimal wellbeing of animals.
* The ability to follow proper up to date and Central Florida Zoo approved venomous handling techniques and protocols.
* To have a working knowledge of venom toxinology, snake bite safety protocols, and participate in safely drills and exercises.
* Ensure that all animal interactions and engagements are carried out with the highest ethical and professional standards and that all work is accomplished with quality and in accordance with Central Florida Zoo values.
* Capable of perceiving changes in an animal’s behavior that may indicate signs of illness. Be able to provide and administer medical care under the direction of the Veterinarian, Curator, and Director. Assist in the capture, restraint, and presentation of animals for veterinary review and able to accurately evaluate animal’s response to suggested therapy.
* Develop a work routine that emphasizes safety with the ability to see potential dangers to the animals, staff, and public.
* Maintain and keep up to date with all AZA, USDA and Florida Fish and Wildlife regulations as they pertain to the Zoo collection.
* Public speaking and participation in education and media programs is required. Must be able to represent the Zoo in a courteous and professional manner.
* Document and maintain accurate animal records in an organized fashion.
* May be required to assist with projects or daily duties in other animal areas.
* Adheres to all Central Florida Zoo Policies and Procedures.
* Other duties as assigned.

***Qualifications:***

* Minimum age of 18 years old.
* A college degree in biological science and one to three years’ experience with reptiles in a zoological environment is preferred. Experience with other taxa is a plus.
* Must provide a negative TB test and negative drug screen result.
* Must be able to work as part of a team.
* Must have the ability to work flexible hours, including weekdays, weekends, holidays and evenings.
* Must be able to work effectively in the extreme Florida environment and lift/move up to 50 pounds.

***PHYSICAL DEMANDS*:**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the following have been identified as physical requirements of the job:

* The employee must frequently lift and/or move up to 50 pounds and occasionally lift and/or move up to 75 pounds.
* Ability to drive Zoo vehicles.
* Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and ability to adjust focus.
* While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to talk or hear.
* The employee is frequently required to use hands and fingers to handle, reach, or feel and manipulate objects or controls.
* Stand for long periods of time.
* The employee is frequently required to sit, walk distances, climb, balance, stoop, bend, kneel, and crouch.
* Several job functions of this position are performed in confined areas.

*Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.*

***WORK ENVIRONMENT:***

A large percentage of duties are performed outdoors in various weather conditions, ranging from rain, wind, cool to cold weather, and extreme heat and humidity. It is possible the employee will be exposed to dust and harsh chemicals that if not handled properly may present a health hazard. The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate. Exposure to zoonotic diseases from daily contact with exotic and domestic animals including; bacterial fungal, parasitic, and viral pathogens. Job functions performed around a variety of animal species with potential for physical harm from bites, kicks, heavy lifting, or surgical instruments.

Full-time Perks: Medical, Dental, Vision, Life Insurance, 403(b) Pension Plan & Paid time off & Employee Assistance Program & Free or discounted admission to many attractions in Florida and so much more!