



## Job Description

**Job Title:** Zoo Educator – Outreach & Discovery Courtyard Animal Encounters  
**Reports To:** Education Manager, Director of Education  
**FLSA Status:** Non-Exempt, part time

### SUMMARY:

The Zoo Educator position is a dual role; Outreach & Discovery Courtyard Animal Encounters. Outreach is provided by conducting educational programming with our education collection at off-site locations such as libraries, schools, special events, etc. Animal Encounters are provided by conducting daily scripted educational programming with the education collection on-site for scheduled groups. Responsibilities include teaching, program development and animal handling. Additional guidance is received through established policies and procedures, plus verbal and written communications.

### ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Develop, teach and train the students and/or public about the animals in the education collection.
- Work as a member of a large, diverse team.
- Prepare program areas acquired supplies and materials.
- Work with a large diverse collection of education program animals. This includes, but not limited to, handling animals during programs, packing and unpacking animals and supplies.
- Teach respective programs following program guidelines.
- Clean up all program areas used.
- Assist with other programs in the education department, as needed.
- Develop and nurture professional relationships with all Zoo staff.
- Adheres to all Central Florida Zoo policies and procedures.
- Other duties as assigned.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill, and/or ability required. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

- Minimum 18 years old.
- Must provide a negative pre-employment drug test result.
- Must successfully pass a background check.
- Must be able to traverse Zoo grounds on foot.
- Must be able to work independently and as part of a team.
- Receive and understand directions/instructions verbally, written and audio.
- Ability to interact with a wide age range and variety of people is essential.
- Ability to learn, retain and, in turn, teach many animal facts in an effective manner.
- Excellent communication and teamwork skills necessary.
- Ability to work with wide range of animals (invertebrates, amphibians, reptiles, birds and small mammals).
- Must have the ability to work flexible hours, including weekdays, weekends, holidays, evenings and Zoo special events.

The duties listed above are intended only as an illustration of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to the position.

### EDUCATION / EXPERIENCE:

This position requires a Bachelor’s degree with a strong background in biology, zoology or life science. A minimum of one (1) year in an informal teaching environment with children; zoo, museum, nature center, parks departments, etc. Experience utilizing animals in program settings I preferred.

**LANGUAGE ABILITY:**

- Must be able to communicate with guests and staff clearly and effectively.

**CERTIFICATES, LICENSES, REGISTRATIONS:**

- Must possess a valid Florida driver’s license with acceptable motor vehicle record to maintain Zoo standards of insurability.

**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 40 pounds.
- 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.
- The employee is frequently required to sit, walk distances, climb, balance, stoop, bend, kneel and crouch.

*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.

Central Florida Zoo & Botanical Gardens reserves the right to revise or change job duties and responsibilities as the need arises. This job description pertains to an “at will” position with the Central Florida Zoo & Botanical Gardens and in no way constitutes a written or implied contract of employment.

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Employee (Print name)

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Employee’s signature

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Department Representative

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Date

The Central Florida Zoological Society is an equal opportunity employer and makes decisions related to compensation and all terms, conditions or privileges of employment on the basis of merit. Company policy prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, creed, sex (including pregnancy), gender orientation, religion, marital status, age, national origin or ancestry, physical or mental disability, medical condition, genetic characteristic, military status or any other consideration made unlawful by federal, state, or local laws. All such discrimination is unlawful and prohibited by the CFZS.