

Position Title: Salmon in the Classroom Assistant

Reports To: SITC Coordinator

Position Summary: Salmon in the Classroom (SITC) engages students in hands-on learning about salmon biology and ecology by bringing salmon tanks into classrooms around Clark County. Classes rear Coho salmon eggs, maintain and feed the juvenile fish, and release them in local streams and rivers at the end of the school year. SITC Assistants are partnered with the SITC Coordinator to help facilitate in-class activities, support fish releases, and can support other logistics such as fish deliveries, tank maintenance, and more. In addition, all volunteers have the opportunity to host outreach booths at off-site events or volunteer at special events throughout the year.

Commitment: SITC operates primarily during the school year and during school hours, with occasional weekend activities. Therefore, the frequency of volunteer opportunities varies throughout the year. You will work directly with the SITC Coordinator to determine your exact schedule and how frequently you volunteer. When you are scheduled, volunteers are expected to commit 3-4 hours to support an in-class activity or outdoor fish release activity. In addition, SITC Assistants are expected to attend one outreach or special event.

Onboarding: New volunteers are expected to fill out the volunteer application, schedule a meeting with the Volunteer Manager, pass a background check, meet with the SITC Coordinator, and attend occasional training.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Support SITC Coordinator during In-Class Activities
- Support Fish Release events in spring months
- Engage students, lead small groups, and lead activities
- Assist with tasks such as materials management, prepping student work areas, cleaning up and putting away supplies
- Ensure safety of students
- Work with staff to provide feedback on program activities.
- Follow all policies and procedures set out by Columbia Springs

Qualifications:

- Basic understanding in salmon biology and ecology
- Must be enthusiastic about educating youth and connecting them with salmon
- Work and communicate effectively and respectfully with others
- Dependable, punctual, and available during school hours (8:30 3:00) during week days
- Self-directed and willing to take initiative

Benefits:

- Training and a lifelong learning experience
- Professional Development
- Admission to workshops, as well as volunteer-specific tours and events
- Program apparel, including a t-shirt and nametag
- Recognition events
- The opportunity to meet new people and learn more about Columbia Springs