

Task Description

WOW Education Volunteer

Role title	WOW Education Volunteer	
What needs doing:	<p>Wild Over Waterways (WOW)</p> <p>Working in partnership with The Waterways Trust and the Inland Waterways Association we plan and deliver education, aimed primarily at 7 - 11 year olds, using the WOW website (www.wow4water.net) as a vehicle for communication.</p> <p>WOW was established in 2002 and is designed to enthuse and educate children about the heritage and wildlife of waterways. We hope to encourage children, their teachers, group leaders and families to visit waterways and to do so safely.</p> <p>We are looking for volunteers to join the WOW education team and tasks include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - taking part or leading school visits - helping cub scouts or brownies with their badges - researching local waterway history and habitats and creating new resources - leading or assisting with family activities at events - staffing WOW Corners in museums and visitor centres - running water safety activities - helping with administration such as taking bookings, sending out materials or updating the WOW website - helping with marketing and PR 	
Activity area:	<p>Interpretation and promotion tasks: leading/assisting schools' visits; organizing/running public events inc guided walks/talks; interpretive design/development</p>	Y
	<p>Practical tasks such as hedge-laying, sign installation, litter picking, habitat creation, access improvement, restoration tasks</p>	
	<p>Recording and monitoring tasks such as heritage recording, archaeology, inspections, biodiversity monitoring</p>	
	<p>Customer service tasks such as rangers, assistance at lock flights, management of on site attractions (information points etc.)</p>	
What's in it for the volunteer	<p>Being part of the WOW partnership (BW, IWA and TWT) and the BW national education team.</p> <p>Promoting the value of waterways as an educational resource to children, their teachers, group leaders and carers.</p> <p>Developing both formal and informal learning and communication skills. Understanding how people learn effectively and using this knowledge to create positive learning experiences (both within the waterway environment and using the WOW website).</p> <p>Working with a team of dedicated and passionate people to share this passion with others.</p> <p>Working with children and young people.</p> <p>Working in waterway environments to encourage direct interaction and a hands-on approach to learning.</p> <p>Working collaboratively with professional, interpreters, teachers and young people.</p>	
Keys skills needed	Experience of working with children and young people – or a	

	<p>desire to learn.</p> <p>Interest and knowledge of the waterways, social & industrial heritage or the environment - but more importantly a desire to share this interest with others.</p> <p>Ability and eagerness to lead or assist visits and activities for children in both formal and informal settings.</p> <p>Good organiser and ability to potentially work without direct supervision.</p> <p>Confident communicator and willingness to try new ideas.</p> <p>Driving license or ability to organise transportation to site is essential.</p>		
Checks needed (informal interview, CRB, ISA registration, references). Look at guidance on checks	<p>Enhanced CRB check prior to any involvement with children and young people.</p> <p>References will be taken.</p> <p>Interview process.</p>		
Training offered (inc. accreditation where applicable)	<p><i>Essential:</i></p> <p>Working with children & young people.</p> <p>Safety training.</p> <p><i>Potential (depending on task):</i></p> <p>Leading and assisting school and uniformed group visits, guided walks & family events.</p> <p>Writing for children.</p> <p>Understanding how people learn.</p> <p>Water safety.</p> <p>Designing for children.</p>		
Ongoing role or time limited?	Ongoing - flexible hours with some evenings and weekends.		
Any minimum time needed?	10 days per year		
Task based where?	<i>Place:</i>	Standedge Visitor Centre	<i>Nearest town:</i> Huddersfield
	<i>Postcode:</i>	HD7 6NQ	
	<i>Waterway:</i>	Huddersfield Narrow Canal	
BW Supervisor (To be promoted on websites)	Sarah Cook		<i>Tel.</i>
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