



Richmond

LEAD TEACHER (Bilingual – Spanish encouraged to apply)

Department/Program: Early Childhood Education

Reports To: Site Supervisor or Senior Director of Early Childhood Education

FLSA Status: Exempt

GENERAL PURPOSE OF JOB

Creative growth is encouraged by designing a curriculum that allows each child to contribute in his or her unique way. Children, parents, teachers, and the environment form a complete circle of learning, inspiring all to join in the process. The purpose of the Lead Teacher is to establish and maintain a safe learning environment that is cognitively stimulating, aesthetically pleasing, and fosters a child's emotional, social, physical, and cognitive growth using a Reggio Emilia Inspired approach to a child's learning.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES include the following. Other duties may be assigned.

1. Plan and facilitate daily programs that are age appropriate and cognitively stimulating.
2. Arrange space, setting and materials in the classroom and outdoors, according to the highest standard rating scales; ensuring a clean, orderly, child-centered environment.
3. Facilitate a child's learning by using a Reggio Emilia inspired educational philosophy. Demonstrate proficiency in the area of adapting lessons and activities to meet the needs of all children. If use of the Creative Curriculum is required, it is planned and implemented through a Reggio lens.
4. Formally observe children's activities and progress; document and share information regarding children's experiences with the teaching team and parents/guardians regularly.
5. Use observation, documentation, and data drawn from the GOLD assessment tool as the foundation of provocations and experiences.
6. Be knowledgeable of Virginia's Quality Initiatives and NAEYC accreditation standards. Enforce all licensing regulations and national accreditation standards.
7. Maintain up-to-date children's portfolio and assessment records.
8. Maintain regular communication with parents/guardians, colleagues, office personal and center Director.
9. Develop and maintain a supportive rapport with parents/guardians, and facilitate parent/guardian participation in the classrooms. Establish communication structures with parents that include classroom conferences, home visits, etc.
10. Promote community and foster social responsibility through multicultural and anti-bias programming and environments.
11. Manage children's behavior in a solution-focused, trauma-informed manner.

12. Complete required administrative paperwork including injury reports, meal counts, daily health checks, cleaning checklists, and other forms to ensure compliance and /or quality.
13. Demonstrate professionalism, engagement, and kindness to all children and families regardless of race, religion, nationality, abilities, familial status or make up, etc.
14. Maintain a professional working atmosphere and confidentiality of information in relation to staff, children, families and co-workers. Perform other duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Director.
15. Must be able to commit to alignment with the organization's mission and values

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES

Provides guidance and in-class supervision for Assistant Teacher, Teacher Aide, Volunteers, and Foster Grandparents as appropriate.

QUALIFICATIONS To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

EDUCATION and/or EXPERIENCE

Credentials for the Lead Teacher position are tiered and classroom assignments are made based on educational credentials.

Minimum Qualifications:

1. CDA or AA/BA in ECE; or
 - a. Non-ECE BA with 15 ECE credits and 1 year of experience
2. Certain assignments require being licensed by the state of Virginia as a Certified Teacher eligible to teach preschool.
3. Strong written and oral communication skills
4. Thorough knowledge of principles and techniques of Early Childhood Education

Preferred Qualifications:

1. Associates or Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education.
2. 1 year of experience working within an ECE setting.
3. Training in and experience with Virginia's Quality Initiatives, NAEYC, Reggio Emilia Inspired learning models, and Creative Curriculum.

Staff demonstrates their understanding of the critical role volunteers play in helping YWCA achieve our mission by providing volunteers the resources and training needed to be successful, offering meaningful experiences, treating them with respect, and clearly communicating needs and impact of their contribution to the work of the organization.