

Minnesota Zoo Volunteer Job Description

Professional Skill Set Volunteer

STEM Student Design Challenge Volunteer Judge

Position Purpose & Scope

This volunteer position serves to provide professional skill-set to support the ZOOMS program, the Minnesota Zoo's own integrated STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) program. The scope of the position will include assisting zoo staff with judging ZOOMS Design Challenge 3rd-8th grade student projects at various Twin Cities metro area schools on various dates between January and February.

Reports To

STEM Specialist and School Program Supervisor as appropriate
Volunteer Services Manager and/or Volunteer Services Coordinator

Qualifications

Must be 18 years of age or older
Must possess qualifications and experience that support the skill set required to complete the task
Must present a professional appearance and a friendly manner
Must be dependable and punctual
Must be courteous and personable when dealing with Zoo guests, other staff and volunteers
Must be self-directed, willing to take initiative, and detail-oriented
Must respect and maintain confidentiality of zoo information, guests, staff and volunteers
Must have skill in the areas under responsibilities below in order to accomplish such tasks

Responsibilities

Below are examples of the areas in which the volunteer's skill set may be used

- Visiting various Twin Cities schools to help zoo staff evaluate student projects in regards to use of the engineering design process, background research, connection to conservation, and how it meets pre-determined Snow Monkey exhibit redesign or the grizzly bear enrichment design guidelines.
- Assist with preparing and organizing student top project submissions for zoo staff review
- Participate in reviewing submitted student projects with zoo staff to choose projects that will be advancing to the final ZOOMS Exhibition at the Zoo at the end of March.

Commitment

Commitment and schedule will be agreed upon between the volunteer and the supervising staff member
Project timeline is expected to be January 2017-February 2017.

Benefits

Free admission to the Zoo for volunteer and immediate family during the project commitment
Discount on Zoo Admission for friends and extended family during the project commitment
Discount at all food facilities at Zoo during the project commitment
Discount at gift shops at Zoo during the project commitment
Discount at IMAX Theater during the project commitment

Professional Skill Set Volunteer Positions Exist to Support not Supplant the Work of Paid Staff Positions.