



*\*Sparking wonder and curiosity about our world through hands-on science experiences\**

Come join our team! McWane Science Center counts on the full-time STEM Education Specialist to create a robust STEM learning ecosystem by developing and implementing inquiry-based STEM experiences that spark interest, build science capital, encourage science identity and foster participation in STEM. These experiences include standards-based reserved school programs, outreach programs, homeschool labs, camps, professional development and parent engagement workshops, and special events/projects. This position is also responsible for assisting with museum engagement and the care of the education animal collection. Weekend and evening work is required.

### **Accountabilities and Major Duties**

1. Develop, revise, evaluate, and facilitate engaging, accessible, and relevant STEM experiences including public and reserved programs, homeschool labs, school and community outreach, camps, special event programs, and professional development workshops.
2. Support our Theory of Change by ensuring all interactions are social, connected, inclusive, engaging, needed, conversational, and evidence based.
3. Expand knowledge and stay up to date on scientific breakthroughs and current trends in STEM engagement/educational philosophies through training sessions, seminars, workshops, peer evaluation, self-directed research, and other professional development activities.
4. Assist the Museum Engagement department in creating a vibrant and exciting atmosphere on the museum floor.
  - a. Engagement with visitors at various exhibits in the museum by covering shifts at the Shark and Ray Touch Tank, the High Cycle, and the Itty Bitty Magic City greeting gate to establish exhibit expectations and spark meaningful discussion.
  - b. Facilitate hands-on STEM experiences at engagement stations throughout the museum.
5. Assist with the care of the animals in our educational animal collection including feeding, cleaning, and animal handling.
6. Comply with a Safety Procedures Program that ensures the safety of Education staff and visitors engaged in educational programs. Compliance with OSHA regulations and MSDS requirements is mandatory.
7. Other Duties:
  - a. Serve as project leader and contact person for assigned education projects.
  - b. Serve as an ambassador for McWane Science Center at community events.
  - c. Serve as a mentor to new Education staff including temporary educators, work-study students, interns, and volunteers.
  - d. Inventory, upkeep and maintenance of programming venues, classrooms, and supplies.
  - e. As assigned.

### **Minimum Qualifications**

- Possess a bachelor's degree in science, education, or related field.
- Excellent communication skills (written and verbal).
- Knowledge of good customer service principles, excellent interpersonal skills, and the ability to work well with a variety of people from various backgrounds and cultures.
- Must be a self-directed, creative problem solver with excellent follow-through.
- Must be comfortable leading presentations and interacting in a group setting; sense of humor and level-head in a chaotic environment.
- Ability to engage with children and adults in a friendly, outgoing, and professional manner.
- Experience in presentation of informal science programs preferred.
- Ability to accurately interpret and communicate science concepts.

- Must be able and willing to work weekends, evenings, and holidays.
- Ability to handle small animals, including reptiles and marine animals, in program presentations required.
- Possess a valid driver's license subject to acceptable annual motor vehicle reports.
- Must be willing and able to travel throughout Alabama including occasional overnight stays.
- Minimum liability insurance as required by State law.

#### **Minimum Physical Qualifications**

- Sit/stand for extended periods of time without being able to leave the work area.
- Lift objects frequently in performing the work (10-20 lbs. frequently, crazy star dome weight occasionally).
- Pull or push objects on a regular basis (50 lbs.).
- Grasp object utilizing the fingers.
- Reach for objects above the head or below the waist.
- Stoop or crouch by bending at the waist or by bending legs.
- Ability to operate a motor vehicle.
- Hearing and visual acuity.
- Exposure to chemicals, fumes and vapors that could potentially affect the health of the employee.

***Benefits include health, dental, vision and life insurance; 403(b) retirement savings plan including company match; paid time off; FREE membership and IMAX Theater screenings; discounts in our gift shop, camp program, IMAX theater and food service; and on-site parking.***

***McWane Science Center is closed on New Year's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.***

**We look forward to hearing from you!** Please forward letter of interest, resume and rate of pay requirements to McWane Science Center Human Resources at [HR@mcwane.org](mailto:HR@mcwane.org). EOE.