

GREAT KIDS FARM & FOREST CAMP



JOB DESCRIPTION: CAMP COUNSELORS

CAMP OVERVIEW & DATES

WHAT: Launched in Summer 2021, Great Kids Farm and Forest Camp (GKFFC) offers Baltimore City Public School students the opportunity to engage with nature and their food system in ways that reinforce scientific concepts from the school year, spark connections with the environment, and promote social and emotional well-being. Campers, rising 3rd to 5th graders, spend most of the time OUTDOORS, exploring 33 acres of forest, fields, and stream at the district-owned Great Kids Farm.

WHERE: Great Kids Farm: 6601 Baltimore National Pike, Catonsville, MD 21228

WHO: Six rising sophomores up to 2022 graduated seniors of Baltimore City Schools to work as camp counselors

COUNSELOR HOURS: Candidates must be able to commit to working all of the dates listed below.

- MANDATORY TRAINING (PAID): **June 30 (full day), July 5 (afternoon only), and July 6-8 – (full day)**
- CAMP: Monday-Thursday (closed Friday) July 11-August 4, 2022 - **8am-3:30pm OR 4:30pm**
- MANDATORY CAMP CLOSING DATES: **August 8-9 – (full day)**

COUNSELOR JOB DESCRIPTION: 4 weeks. 6 counselors. 1 great summer outdoors!

COUNSELORS MUST BE:

- Rising 10th grader to spring 2022 graduate of Baltimore City Schools.
- Able to get to Great Kids Farm in Catonsville by 8am daily, and leave at either 3:30 (regular day) or 4:30 (aftercare day). (Note: the only public transportation option is bus line #77 or Purple Line, which ends at a shopping center a 1-mile walk from Great Kids Farm. There is a sidewalk along that walk). We encourage carpooling when possible.
- Loves working with younger students and has prior experience working with kids, such as from other summer camps, babysitting, tutoring, mentoring, etc.
- Interested in nature, gardening and cooking; no prior outdoor experience required – just interest to learn!
- Interested in creating activities for campers; willing to spend time on planning independently and in a group.
- Comfortable spending time outside when it's hot and sweaty! We have A/C when needed, but this is an outdoor-focused camp.
- Curious, known as "the responsible one" in your group of friends, punctual (shows up on time for work), and a fan of fun and learning

COUNSELOR ROLE:

Farm and Forest Camp Counselors Job Description

Counselors arrive early to set up and welcome campers. During camp sessions, counselors work in pairs to lead and mentor the same group of 10 children for the full 4-day camp session. Counselors will build relationships and bond with their groups; and are responsible for engaging their group as they bring them to activities (Blocks A and B on the schedule below) led by Great Kids Farm staff or guests; counselors are also responsible for leading or co-leading activities during clubs, free exploration and farm crafts. Counselors will engage campers during lunch and supervise talent show development. The camp director and assistant director will support counselors and manage major challenges and emergencies. At departure each day, counselors help students get their belongings and feel cared for. One or two counselors may be hired to supervise our aftercare program (work day extends until 4:30).

EXAMPLE DAILY COUNSELOR SCHEDULE:

| TIME | ACTIVITY |
|-------------------|--|
| 8:00am | <i>Arrival, morning meeting, set-up</i> |
| 9:00am - 9:30am | Student arrival and check-in; breakfast; Morning Circle |
| 9:30am - 10:15am | Activity Block A (Forest & Trail or Farm & Kitchen) |
| 10:15am - 11:00am | Activity Block B (Forest & Trail or Farm & Kitchen) |
| 11:00am - 11:40am | Lunch & Food Waste Weigh-In & Song Session |
| 11:40am - 12:10pm | Farm Talent Show (preparation and/or performance time) |
| 12:10pm - 1:10pm | Clubs |
| 1:10pm - 2:00pm | Free Exploration: garden, trail, water play, stream, games |
| 2:00pm - 2:30pm | Farm Crafts |
| 2:30pm - 3:00pm | Closing Circle & Dismissal |
| 3:00pm - 3:30pm | <i>Staff closing meeting, clean-up. Aftercare also happening at this time and until 4:30pm</i> |

PAID COUNSELOR TRAINING INCLUDES:

- Managing your day: camp schedule, routines and rituals, and farm lunch protocols
- Communication and feedback as a team
- First aid, health and safety (this will not be a 1st aid certification, but will provide basic skills)
- Managing groups of children in outdoor settings and helping children with special behavioral needs
- Diversity, equity and inclusion as a way of being in our programs
- How to run activities and plan your own activities for children including science, crafts, water play, creative play, nature play, farming, cooking, and team-building games
- Creating a sense of safety, belonging, fairness, and fun for your group!

PAY: \$15/hour, paid through non-profit partner Friends of Great Kids Farm

HOW TO APPLY:

Fill out Google Form Application: <https://forms.gle/fKiTTCmqdR49Zury5>

Laura Menyuk (goes by “L” or Ms. L) will get back to you within 48 hours after receiving your application to let you know if she’d like to schedule an interview. Hiring is on a rolling basis until all positions are filled.

Feel free to contact L if you have any questions or comments: lnmenyuk@bcps.k12.md.us; 301-580-5421