



The Knowing Garden Community School

Full-time Teacher for students aged 7-8 (Nature Growers)

Job Description and Teacher Agreements

Our Nature Grower's teacher is a creative educator responsible for preparing whole-child, nature- and place-based lesson plans. This educator is passionate about learning and can encourage students and families to think and explore as learners.

This teacher is an innovator who combines best practices and protocols of constructivist and project-based learning (PBL).

This person is a creative educational community member who enjoys creating lesson plans in partnership with the student's interests. As well as, formally and informally assessing students' comprehension based on the TKG Learning Trajectory and the student's developmental capacity.

Professional requirements

- M.A. or B.A. in a subject you are passionate about
- 3-4 Years of Professional experience
- Teaching Certification
- Project Based Learning or experience in supporting students in practicing deeper learning competencies (critical thinking, collaboration, effective communication, owning their learning, and building confidence)
- Conflict Resolution Skills
- Collaborative Practices
- Willingness to continue learning through Professional Development
- CPR Certification

Salary: From \$35,000.00 per year + Benefits

- Flexible schedule
- Health insurance
- Professional development assistance
- IRA/Retirement
- Tuition moderation

Location/Commute

- Redondo Beach, CA 90277: Reliably commute or planning to relocate before starting work (Required)

Classroom Schedule

- Monday to Friday, 9am to 1pm

Contact

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Key tasks related to Students, Families, and the Educational Program

1. Develop whole-child lessons designed to support the development of problem-solvers who are competent learners pursuing new information in a variety of ways and document and assess the learning outcomes
 - a. Plan lessons incorporating TKG's philosophy consistently.
 - b. Document and Assess learning outcomes as outlined. The following documentation tools are used to convey experience, progress, and outcomes:
 - i. Written Assessments & Narratives
 - ii. Conference Forms
 - iii. Representation of student goals
 - iv. Whole child snapshot
 - v. Content-specific learning trajectory
 - vi. Narrative
 - vii. Newsletter documentation
 - viii. Learning Update
 - c. Attend regular parent conferences
 - d. Support portfolio development and presentation
 - e. Support special event days at school (Thinker Fair, Maker Fair, Open House). Coordinate with persons organizing special guests/guest speakers in the classroom.
2. Develop Personal Relationships with Students: To build trust by understanding their interests, skills, and needs. To empower them to build pursuit and perseverance of their own personal learning trajectory and goals
 - a. Directly engage behavior challenges in an attempt to strengthen teacher/student relationships by scheduling one-on-one time with the child in the classroom (or home visit) during office hours.
 - b. Record events that may indicate a pattern of disconnection and pro-actively consult with a mentor to support student/family and keep the flow of learning.
 - c. Support conflict resolution that is collaborative, empowering, and safe. Collaborate with staff on social-emotional resources and opportunities to help students build EQ skills over the length of their time at TKG.
3. Develop Personal Relationships with Parents: To communicate on a regular basis to stay connected to the family team
 - a. Hold weekly office hours to meet with parents on the phone or in person (1:15-2:00 PM). If meetings are not scheduled, use the time to create a presence in the parent pick-up area and restore our space.
 - b. Attend monthly parent meetings and create documentation to share.



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- c. Preserve communication hours between M-F 8-9 am and 3-4 pm and respond to email within a 48-hour timeframe.
4. Create and Manage Learning Environments that are stimulating, and peaceful.
 - a. Attend the beginning of the year Work Day (August 31) to guide parents in the creation of the environment.
 - b. Maintain an aesthetically pleasing environment featuring student work with a minimum of commercially created teacher materials.
 - c. Create centers or areas that inspire curiosity and inquisitiveness.
 - d. Through a growth mindset lens, develop ways for students to practice 'Rights & Responsibilities' or responsibility for self and actions.
 - e. Regularly update a list of maintenance and/or facilities projects.
 - f. With the support of a parent assistant, prepare the classroom for special events
5. Attend pertinent workshops/seminars/conferences to develop knowledge.
 - a. Participate in staff meetings
 - b. Participate in Professional Development days
- c. Attend TKG-sponsored events/workshops. Registration is always complimentary.
6. Cultivate an environment of cooperation, inclusion, and connection to nature
 - a. Support the inclusion of all students as well as celebrate their differences and growth edges
 - b. Encourage mindfulness, stress-release strategies, and self-awareness of needs
 - c. Intentionally integrate opposing views/opinions as a matter of provocation and to foster critical thinking
 - d. Attend field trips, as scheduled by TKG, coordinating with appointed parent
 - h. Integrate social justice
 - i. Integrate environmental stewardship initiatives.
 - j. Collaborate with colleagues on a regular activity plan to incorporate nature, art, and movement into your daily flow.

COVID-19 considerations:

Masking is required indoors (we are 99% outdoors). COVID vaccine or weekly testing is required. COVID confirmed cases will wait to return to work when there are no fevers and at least 3 days from initial signs of symptoms.