Teacher’s Role at Nature’s Classroom Institute

Your upcoming visit will be a unique experience. We ask you now to consider your role at NCI. We hire a staff very willing to alter, adjust, and rearrange, but not disregard, the goals of Nature’s Classroom Institute.

They will be happy to accommodate your interests and allow you to participate at the level you prefer. Your responsibilities for the week are as stated below:

- Dormitory coverage between evening dismissal and breakfast;
- Coverage during ½ hour “transition time” periods during after-breakfast clean-up, between daytime activities, and during after-dinner journal writing;
- Coverage during 1 hour “break” periods;
- Assisting NCI instructors with student coverage at meals.

Involve yourself with your students. If you wish to go above and beyond these responsibilities, we welcome your involvement. If you are willing, able and eager to “get into the swing of things,” we invite you to join the students and staff during all activities except the first and last Field Group periods when you will be meeting with the Director.

Do you want to teach any classes? Simply let the NCI Director know so that a time period can be opened for you. Do you have a particular academic area that you would like to see covered? Do you have any specific classes, themes, or activities that should be presented during your visit? Please let us know. For scheduling accommodation, please notify us of your teaching interest/activity request(s) at least one (1) week prior to your class trip.

If you wish to participate in classes taught by NCI instructors, you are welcome! Our teachers are in charge of their field groups and classes, but please feel free to share your insights or expertise. This may be an excellent opportunity to introduce your students to classroom material or reinforce previous learning. We recognize the importance of allowing individual groups to emphasize particular areas of concentration or themes. You may discuss what you would like to see with the Director and together choose activities which will relate to your academic goals. For scheduling accommodation, please notify us of your desired area(s) of concentration at least one (1) week prior to your class trip.

Please refrain from making one or more classes or field activities required for everyone because we often need, or wish, to revise certain activities depending on the weather, group size or other factors. We ask that you are flexible and accepting of changes when you arrive.
We are constantly trying out new activities, often reflecting an NCI instructor’s new interest or sudden bout of creativity.

We also understand that you may have your own projects to work on during the week. Joining the students during classes, field groups or large group activities is not required. A lounge area is set aside in the dining hall for visiting teachers. We ask only that you make yourself available to the students during the coverage periods explained above.