

Student Intern Responsibilities

- Help the kids follow our main rules: Be Safe, Be Kind, and Have Fun!
- Model good behavior, including listening and communication skills
- Help students integrate into group and feel welcomed
- Share your attention with the students equally
- Help kids get amped for games/activities, and also help them play the game or do the activity if they need extra guidance.
- Be willing to follow directions from the instructors when they need extra help.
- Practice your awareness by noticing when you can be helpful, to both the students and the instructors.
- **SAFETY is the biggest priority.** Always being aware of hazards, such as poison oak, rattlesnakes, trash, etc, and also being extra safe in and around the water. We do not go in deep water with the Forest Foxes, so you must be content to wade in the shallows with them.
- Younger children will naturally look towards their older peers (you!) to learn from. The behavior you model will have a huge influence on how they chose to act and react. Also remember this during activities such as free time. If you wander off to the deeper section of the creek, is this going to inspire them to do the same (yes!) If you choose to do a risky activity, such as climb a tree that is beyond their capacity, do you think they may try to do this as well? (yes!) This can work both ways. If you are working on a skill during free time this can also be an inspiration for the younger kids. For example, maybe you are studying some animal tracks that you found, or you are looking through a field guide you brought during snack time, or you are grinding pine nuts into beads. Doing an action is the best way to inspire a child to become curious about learning.
- You may never be left completely alone with, nor be solely responsible, for a child. During play/swim time, we may be slightly spread out from one another, but you are not allowed to wander away from the group by yourself with any number of children.
- Learn the techniques of being a Coyote Teacher. Ever notice that when you ask us a question, we usually answer you with another question? That is intentional. If a little Forest Fox asks you a question, seize the opportunity to be a Coyote Teacher yourself! Ask them a question to guide them to the answer themselves, or at least to make some memorable observations on their own first. For example, if a fox asks you "What is this plant?" you can answer, "Let's find out together, what do you notice about this plant that makes it different than the others?" Or, if a fox

asks you "What bird is that?" you can answer, "Let's find out together, how about we fox walk to get a closer look at them, and see also what they are doing? Then maybe we can figure it out!" Get it? Coyote Teaching is fun!