

# Nature-Based STEM Professional Development Program 2021/2022 Academic Year

This program is *rooted in inquiry based learning for science* and will support teachers in creating multi-disciplinary learning in their classrooms. We will help educators align their instructional practices to DEI, explore local environmental justice issues, and use the Meaningful Watershed Experience (MWEE) framework to work with students to create action projects that improve their communities.

#### Who is Eligible?

Through this program, we will build a network of formal and informal educators who can support one another's practice.

- Educators who teach 3rd-5th grade in a formal school setting
- Informal educators who teach students in grades 3-5 at an outdoor based or environmental education center
- Preference for educators working with students in Southeastern PA, although all are welcome to apply
- · Scholarships are available for teachers in the Norristown, Pottstown, Upper Darby, and Philadelphia school districts.

The program kicks off with a Summer Outdoor Science 3-day Workshop from August 3rd to August 5th:

August 3rd: Outdoor Field Experience

August 4th: Virtual

August 5th: Outdoor Field Experience

#### Teachers will learn:

· Strategies for applying common learning pedagogies to outdoor learning

- · Focus on DEI strategies for a more inclusive outdoor experience for all learners
- · Introduction to the Meaningful Watershed Experience (MWEE) for project based learning

#### Teachers will experience:

- · A yearlong outdoor focused, project based learning experience from start to finish
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$  Lessons that can be implemented into classrooms immediately
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$  Outdoor learning experiences at sites in the area during the summer workshop

### Teachers will receive:



Application Requirements Please note that space is limited.

- · Please complete application by June 15, 2021
- · Please include a letter of support from your principal or supervisor

## To register, visit: www.riverbendeec.org/what-we-do/programs/teacher-professional-development

Thanks to our generous funders, this program is offered at no cost to schools in the Norristown, Pottstown, Upper Darby, and Philadelphia school districts. We appreciate their support of Riverbend.













If you feel that you need financial assistance to participate in this program, please contact us.



Riverbend Environmental Education Center • 1950 Spring Mill Road, Gladwyne, PA 19035 • 610-527-5234