Title: Backyard Naturalist  
Classification: Part Time/Non-exempt  
Department: Education  
Reports To: Nature Education Manager  
Created: February 13, 2015

Position Summary: The primary responsibility of the Backyard Naturalist is to engage school groups (K-6th grade) and visitors in Outdoor Nature Exploration (ONE) programming and in the Museum’s Club House and Backyard. S/he is also responsible for helping maintain the Backyard and Club House learning spaces. The Backyard Naturalist reports directly to the Nature Education Manager.

Specific Responsibilities:
- Works with Education departments to deliver successful nature education programs, including: 
  - School & Teacher Services to facilitate, evaluate and refine Outdoor Nature Exploration school programs (for grades K-6) working with Nature Education Volunteers and/or Docents to implement the programs.
  - Nature Education to develop, facilitate, evaluate and refine exploration & inquiry based Naturalist Adventure and/or Citizen Science public programs for visitors in the Backyard, Mission Creek and Museum campus.
- Handles live animals and utilizes them to engage guests in the Club House.
- Assists Animal Caretaker with care of animals in the Club House.
- Acts as point of contact for guests to the Museum and orients them according to their interest.
- Assists guests in answering and researching exhibit-related and natural history-focused questions.
- Responsible for the set-up, breakdown and housekeeping of all Nature Education based school & public programming; and assists in the maintenance of the Backyard and Club House.
- Acts as point of contact for Nature Education Volunteers as needed.
- Contributes input on design of school and public programs that focus on outdoor nature exploration of the Museum campus.
- Assists in evaluation of guest interaction at various components of the Backyard and Club House, including documenting engagements in the Club House and in Naturalist Adventure programs.
- Promotes the Museum’s Curiosity Lab, encouraging cross-programmatic engagements for visitors.
- Ability to work in the Museum’s Curiosity Lab on an as-needed basis.
- Other duties as assigned.

Essential Requirements:
- Passion for the natural world and a desire to work with children and young families as well as adults in engaging them in the wonders of the natural world.
- Experience teaching and facilitating formal and informal education programs.
- Experience developing and/or evaluating education programs.
- Knowledge of biological sciences, local natural history or related fields.
- Associates degree or higher (may have a degree in progress).
- Experience working with the public, including children.
- Ability to present effectively to a variety of audiences and audience sizes.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, including ability to communicate with guests of all ages and backgrounds.
- Can work independently and as a team member.
Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History
Position Description

• Comfortable using a Mac, PC, internet, computer equipment such as a projector.
• Ability to locate and use internet resources, field guides, scientific journals and other reference materials.
• Ability to work flexible hours, weekends, weekdays, and holidays. Both Saturday & Sunday work required.
• Follows all Museum safety regulations.

Work Environment:
• Frequent standing, walking, bending, with occasional lifting up to 40 lbs.
• Occasional work outdoors.

Title: Backyard Naturalist (Part Time)

The incumbent must be able to perform each requirement of the position as outlined in the job description. Essential Requirements are representative and are essential for satisfactory job performance. The Work Environment characteristics are representative of those that may be encountered while on the job. The Museum will make reasonable accommodations to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions of the position.

Title: Backyard Naturalist

Signatures:

Employee
I have read this position description and understand its contents.

______________________________  __________________
Employee Signature                Date

Museum
This position description accurately describes the critical and important duties assigned to this position.

______________________________  __________________
Department Head                  Date

______________________________  __________________
Chief Operating Officer           Date

______________________________  __________________
Human Resources                  Date