



springriverschool.org

Class Teacher of Grade School Children in an all outdoors Homeschool K-8 Grades Program inspired by Waldorf Education

Status: Full Time Salaried for the 2022-2023 School Year

Salary: \$31,000-\$40,000

Tuition Remission, Health Stipend & Professional Development Support available to all Class Teachers

Salary is scaled based on experience, certification, and education

Reports to: Program Director and College of Teachers

Position Summary

Spring River is seeking a qualified and motivated individual to serve as a class teacher in Grades 1-6. Candidates must possess a commitment to personal and professional development and an enthusiasm for collegial work. This person will work as part of a committed team of teachers and be an active member of our school community. Teachers in our school make a significant commitment to their classes, both in endeavoring to know their individual students well and in bringing a rich and solidly academic curriculum as a whole. This involves creating a productive relationship with parents, and a cooperative relationship with colleagues. The Class Teacher will play a vital part in their students' development, setting the standard for their experience of learning, fostering confidence, and helping them to grasp basic concepts for their grade level. This level of teaching involves interactive learning with games, artistic activity, visual aids, music, and other tools to keep students engaged and challenged. The teacher will instruct students of varying learning levels and may be asked to teach in a combined grade grouping.

Classroom responsibilities:

- Arrive on campus each day with time to set up an outdoor classroom to prepare for student arrival. Prompt and regular attendance is an essential duty and responsibility of this position.
- Prepare for and instruct morning lessons, painting, form drawing, and practice periods. (Some classroom teachers will also provide specials/enrichment classes.)
- Develop and maintain a safe harmonious social environment for the students
- Document and record student progress primarily through the use of narrative descriptions written twice per year.
- Prepare a yearly class play or presentation as indicated by the curriculum
- Plan and carry out class field trips or a class trip (third grade and up.)

Administrative Responsibilities:

- Track attendance for students.
- Track and Document behavior (per school Discipline policy) as needed
- Communicate with parents weekly via email/newsletter format.
- Attendance and participation in weekly faculty meetings, and two in-service sessions, and the beginning and end of each academic year.
- Participate in committee work for the school.

- Participate in parent conferences.

Skills

Teaching requires patience, creativity, a knack for organization and multitasking, and time management. Class teachers should understand how to motivate and communicate with children, as well as how to efficiently address behavioral problems and practice positive classroom management. Teachers should also be well-versed in current teaching trends and approaches, and able to tailor their teaching methods to the needs of a specific individual or class. The Class Teacher must be able to hold confidentiality and professionalism with the parent/teacher bond.

Other responsibilities

- All teachers share responsibility for the well-being of the school. Aspects of this responsibility are:
 - Participate in the daily morning Teacher Circle.
 - Service on at least one faculty committee. First-year teachers are exempt from this requirement.
 - Be available and willing to participate in the enrollment process of new students in areas such as student interviews, parent interviews, student assessments, and arranging for prospective student class visits.
 - Help to expand enrollment by attending open houses or fundraising events throughout the school year.
 - Support currently enrolled families by participating in a parent orientation prior to the start of each class year along with other teachers.
 - Participate in Program Development for the future school year.

Preferred Qualifications

- A deep love for children, respect for parents, enjoyment of working in collaboration with colleagues, joy, and enthusiasm in your work, and a commitment to self-development.
- Bachelor's Degree from an accredited university
- Waldorf Education Certification or the willingness to complete Waldorf Education Certification
- Strong interpersonal communication skills
- Ability to work effectively with a diverse range of people
- 2+ years previous classroom experience

Physical Requirements: The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by employees of the school to successfully perform the essential duties of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made for individuals with disabilities to perform the essential duties.

- Arrives ready to work at the scheduled time and is rarely absent unexpectedly
- Able to have a full range of motion to locate children and examine the environment for hazards.
- Position self as needed including bending, crouching, kneeling, lifting, reaching.
- Able to move classroom supplies in and out of building/classroom space each morning/afternoon.

- Able to work in outdoor weather conditions for an extended period of time.
- Actively supervise students with focus even when distractions are present.
- Frequently communicate with students, parents, colleagues, and leadership.

Work Environment

- Classroom teaching will be 100% outdoors. Some duties are to be done at home on a computer.
- Schedule to be determined on an annual basis, full school calendar to be provided.

NOTE: This job description indicates the general duties and physical requirements of work performed by the employee with this job designation. It should not be interpreted or construed as a comprehensive inventory of all duties, responsibilities, qualifications, and physical requirements required of the employee assigned to this job, as these might vary from day to day or as business needs demand.

EOE Statement: We are an equal employment opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

It is the policy of Spring River School to provide equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, sex, age, religion, national origin, disability, status as a covered veteran, or any other legally protected status, in accordance with federal and state law, and not to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation. This policy applies to all terms and conditions of employment, including recruitment, hiring, placement, compensation, benefits, promotion, demotion, layoff, termination, and all other terms and conditions of employment.

About Spring River School

Spring River School is an initiative of Jacksonville Educational Community, a non-profit educational organization. Spring River was founded by parents and local educators from the community who were driven by a common desire to create a transformative educational experience focused on the whole-child approach. This led to the creation of Jacksonville's first Waldorf-inspired K-8 outdoor education program.

We began in 2014 by gathering in local parks for seasonal community festivals and parent education study groups. The following year we began offering homeschool enrichment classes that included World Languages, Movement, Handwork, Nature Immersion, and Dramatic Arts. Based on the needs of our growing community, we expanded to include a full offering of academic main lessons and enrichment classes, all taught by experienced professional educators. We also developed the area's first K-5 Nature Immersion Forest School, which meets in local preserves and parks.

Spring River was established out of love and respect for childhood and a common understanding that teaching is an art. We serve approximately 100 students from all over the Jacksonville area. We are excited about our newest offering: Spring River's Dewdrops, an unstructured parent-led playgroup with outdoor meet-ups once a week at local parks. This playgroup is for caregivers and their young children, ages birth to 5.

Beginning in the fall of 2020, Spring River took our programming 100% outdoors on daily field trips and is the only "All Outdoor School" in Northeast Florida. Our families are registered homeschoolers, and we believe that is what serves our community best at this time; however, our strategic plan includes steps toward Florida Independent School status and AWSNA (Association of Waldorf Schools of North America) accreditation in the future, while still continuing to serve and support our homeschooling families.

Spring River supports and embraces diversity in all of its forms, including differences in ethnicity, cultural and religious heritage, sexual orientation, socio-economic background, geographic origin, and family structure. We provide our students with a rich, inclusive curriculum that reflects the world in which we live and fosters a safe atmosphere where every member of the community is respected, and multiple viewpoints can be peacefully expressed. Diversity within our community is an asset. For this reason, we actively cultivate this diversity in all aspects of school life including the composition of our student body, staff, and leadership. We commit to work through the tensions that arise in the midst of genuine community and to use those tensions as a vehicle to self-reflect critically and fearlessly. We believe this commitment to diversity will help prepare today's children for tomorrow's world.

Our Mission: To encourage independent thought, nourish imagination and cultivate social responsibility.

Our Vision: An educational experience that embodies a reverence and respect for the intellectual, artistic, social, physical, emotional, and spiritual life of each student.