

STEM Educator

The Virginia Air & Space Science Center, NASA's Langley Research Center Official Visitor Center, located in Downtown Hampton, is seeking enthusiastic and passionate STEM Educators to join our Education team.

This is an exciting opportunity for individuals who are passionate about education and enjoy Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) while encouraging curiosity and creativity, inspiring students through engaging, immersive, and hands-on learning experiences.

STEM Educators play an important role in connecting learners to the worlds of, critical thinking, problem-solving, and a lifelong love of learning.

VASSC educators are an essential part of creating meaningful experiences that complement classroom instruction and inspire the next generation of scientists, engineers, innovators, and explorers.

We are seeking individuals who bring energy, enthusiasm, creativity, and a genuine passion for educating and inspiring learners of all ages. The ideal candidate enjoys working with children and adults, is comfortable leading groups, and is excited about making STEM accessible, engaging, relevant, and fun.

Position Details:

- **Position:** STEM Educator
- **Employment Type:** Part-Time
- **Compensation:** Hourly
- **Schedule:** Flexible; hours vary based on seasonality, program schedules, and educator needs
- **Primary Schedule:** The majority of hours will occur Monday through Friday during the K–12 school day, when most field trips are scheduled
- **Background Check:** Required

Essential Responsibilities:

- Deliver engaging in-person and virtual STEM presentations that introduce students to concepts aligned with the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL).
 - Facilitate hands-on science activities, experiments, demonstrations, and inquiry-based learning experiences.
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- Create an inclusive and engaging learning environment that encourages students to ask questions, explore ideas, think critically, and make connections between STEM concepts and the world around them.
- Collaborate with Education staff to effectively present and reinforce STEM-related content.
- Adapt teaching strategies, communication styles, and activities to meet the needs of different ages, learning styles, and group dynamics.
- Participate in training sessions and professional development opportunities to develop knowledge of VASSC educational programs, exhibits, curriculum, and instructional approaches.
- Work collaboratively with Education staff to ensure programs are prepared, organized, and successfully implemented.
- Engage with teachers, chaperones, parents, and other program participants to provide a welcoming and positive educational experience and solicit constructive feedback.
- Communicate regularly with fellow STEM Educators and Education staff to share information, address challenges, and support consistent program delivery.
- Provide weekly updates, reports, and requested materials to the STEM Faculty Coordinator.
- Maintain a professional, positive, and enthusiastic presence while representing the Virginia Air & Space Science Center.
- Demonstrate a commitment to creating educational experiences that spark curiosity, inspire confidence, and foster a lifelong passion for learning and STEM.
- Support other Education Department activities and perform additional related duties as required or assigned.

Minimum Required Qualifications:

- Create an inclusive and engaging learning environment that encourages students to ask questions, explore ideas, think critically, and make connections between STEM concepts and the world around them.
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Ideal Qualifications:

- Maintain a professional, positive, and enthusiastic presence while representing the Virginia Air & Space Science Center.
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- Support other Education Department activities and perform additional related duties as required or assigned.

What We Value:

At VASSC, we believe that effective STEM education goes beyond sharing information. It is about creating moments of discovery that inspire learners to ask questions, explore possibilities, and see themselves as capable problem-solvers and innovators.

We value educators who bring their authentic enthusiasm into every program and understand the impact that a positive educational experience can have on a student's confidence and future.

VASSC STEM Educators should be:

- **Passionate about education** and excited about helping others learn.
- **Enthusiastic and engaging**, bringing energy and excitement to every program.
- **Curious and creative**, encouraging students to explore, question, experiment, and discover.
- **Student-centered**, recognizing that every learner brings different experiences, interests, and abilities.
- **Collaborative**, working effectively with colleagues, teachers, and other members of the Education team.
- **Adaptable and flexible**, responding positively to changing schedules, group dynamics, and educational needs.
- **Professional and dependable**, representing VASSC with enthusiasm and integrity.
- **Committed to lifelong learning**, continually developing their own knowledge and instructional skills.

Whether leading a hands-on experiment, facilitating a discussion, or introducing students to the science and technology behind space exploration, our educators have the opportunity to make learning exciting, meaningful, and memorable.

Most importantly, we are looking for individuals who are passionate about inspiring the next generation and helping students discover that STEM is not just something they learn—it is something they can explore, create, and be a part of.

Physical Requirements:

- Ability to perform daily tasks requiring prolonged periods of walking and standing.
 - Ability to stoop, bend, reach, and move throughout educational spaces and exhibit areas.
 - Ability to safely lift and carry materials weighing up to 30 pounds.
 - Ability to actively participate in hands-on educational activities and demonstrations.
 - Ability to move between classrooms, exhibit spaces, laboratories, and other areas of the Science Center as required.
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