



Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in working for El Ranchito! We are following recommendations and information from the Centers for Disease Control, American Camp Association, the Texas Department of State Health Services, as well as our medical director Dr. Brian Temple and camp nurse Becca Harkleroad, RN to be able to make a final decision about whether camp will be in-person or virtual by April 1st. We WILL have El Ranchito Summer Camp in 2021 and we hope you will be able to join us!

We have prepared two job descriptions: one for each scenario. The first one will be in effect for in-person camp and the second one for virtual camp.

Once we receive your application we will be in touch about next steps and ways you may be involved in planning camp 2021.

Modifications and additions to duties and responsibilities may occur as we follow protocols in continuing to place staff and camper safety as our highest priority.

# Nature Discovery Camp Counselor (residential)

**El Ranchito**  
Summer Camp 2021  
Austin, Texas – [www.elranchito.org](http://www.elranchito.org)

<b>Title:</b>	Camp Counselor (residential camp) (6 positions: 3 male; 3 female)
<b>Supervisor:</b>	Nature Discovery Camp Director
<b>Employment Dates:</b>	June 4 – July 6, 2021
<b>Residency Dates:</b>	June 4 – July 6, 2021 (Residency includes staff training and camp sessions with designated off and refresh time)
<b>Salary:</b>	\$2,300 (plus \$300 if selected to serve as lifeguard; pay rate for approved hours worked outside of Employment Dates is \$14/hr)
<b>Classification:</b>	Seasonal Employment (health benefits not provided)
<b>To Apply:</b>	Visit <a href="http://www.elranchito.org/jobs/">www.elranchito.org/jobs/</a> to apply online

## Camp Description

El Ranchito's mission is to connect children with the natural world by providing an extraordinarily fun and inspiring nature-immersion camping experience. The campsite is located on the Shield Ranch, just 20 miles southwest of Austin. Campers intimately experience the land, its plants and animals, its creeks, and the starry night sky. A primitive tent camp, where staff and campers sleep, makes experiencing the natural world fun and safe for the campers. El Ranchito is a project of the Shield Ranch Foundation in collaboration with El Buen Samaritano Episcopal Mission and Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center.

## Position Description

Six camp counselors will work with 4<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> graders in three week-long sessions, each for two grades only (4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>). Counselors will be responsible for engaging campers in group circle times, a variety of nature-focused activities, recreation, field trips, and journaling. During the camp sessions, each paired counselor team will be responsible for 8 campers 24-hours a day (including all meal times) with designated refresh time on rotation. Duties include, but are not limited to:

- Work with the staff to help prepare the campsite and participate in a week of staff training.
- Facilitate nature-immersion and recreation activities with campers.
- Model 100% involvement with the program and commitment to creating a fun experience for campers.
- Promote conservation values with children and staff.
- Participate in camp duty rotation with assigned crew.
- Serve as a healthy role model and guide; provide insight, direction, nurture and support for campers.
- Cultivate effective working relationships with staff, volunteers, and camp participants.
- Support other staff as needed.
- Contribute to the weekly camp evaluation and final evaluation after camp sessions end.
- Assist in taking down camp.

## Qualification Requirements

- Two or more years of college or at least two years of related work experience required; experience in natural sciences or outdoor studies preferred.
- Preferred qualifications: proficiency in Spanish; lifeguard certification (\$300 supplement).
- Experience working with children ages 9-14.
- Experience tent camping, hiking and exploring in natural areas.
- Experience working with children in outdoor and organized residential camp setting preferred.
- Willing to accept supervision, work independently and as part of a team.
- Willing to live in a tent for camp duration and quarters with one or more staff members.
- Willing to live in a tent camp setting without running water, air conditioning and use of electronics.
- Willing to follow a camp dress code.
- Proof of CPR and Basic First Aid Certification (or higher) before employment begins.
- Completion of a child protection course (part of our staff training).
- Offers are contingent upon successful completion of a background check.
- Tobacco, drugs, alcohol and weapons are not permitted at El Ranchito.

9433 Bee Caves Rd. Suite 140., Austin, Texas 78733 / P 512.476.4816 / [www.elranchito.org](http://www.elranchito.org)

# Nature Discovery Camp Counselor (Virtual)

# El Ranchito

## Virtual Summer Camp 2021

Austin, Texas - [www.elranchito.org](http://www.elranchito.org)

**Title:** Camp Counselor  
**Supervisor:** Nature Discovery Camp Director  
**Employment Dates:** June 4 – July 6, 2021  
**Salary:** \$14/hr, 40 hours per week max (approximately 25-40 hours/week)  
**Classification:** Hourly Employment (health benefits not provided)

**Note:** *El Ranchito 2021 will be held as a virtual camp due to social distancing guidelines in effect because of the coronavirus pandemic. Due to the current COVID-19 situation and the decision to conduct El Ranchito virtually, any reference to the set-up and take down of residential camp; in person contact or interactions; on site activities or in person activities with campers in the attached description is considered null and void. Modifications and additions to duties and responsibilities may occur in continuing to place staff and camper safety as our highest priority.*

### Virtual Camp Description

The mission of El Ranchito Virtual Camp is to create meaningful connections with the El Ranchito community and the natural world while distancing using virtual tools and independent activities.. El Ranchito is a project of the Shield Ranch Foundation in collaboration with El Buen Samaritano Episcopal Mission and Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center.

### Position Description

Six camp counselors will work with 4<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> graders in three week-long sessions, each for two grades only (4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>). Counselors will be responsible for engaging campers in virtual group circle times, a variety of online nature-focused activities, recreation, possible field trips, and journaling. Duties include, but are not limited to:

- Participate in a week of staff training.
- Facilitate virtual nature-immersion and recreation activities with campers.
- Model 100% involvement with the program and commitment to creating a fun experience for campers.
- Promote conservation values with children and staff.
- Participate in camp duty rotation with assigned crew.
- Serve as a healthy role model and guide; provide insight, direction, nurture and support for campers.
- Cultivate effective working relationships with staff, volunteers, and camp participants.
- Support other staff as needed.
- Contribute to the weekly camp evaluation and final evaluation after camp sessions end.

### Qualification Requirements

- Two or more years of college or at least two years of related work experience required; experience in natural sciences or outdoor studies preferred.
- Preferred qualifications: proficiency in Spanish
- Experience working with children ages 9-14.
- Experience tent camping, hiking and exploring in natural areas.
- Experience working with children in outdoor and organized residential camp setting preferred.
- Virtual experience with children is a plus.
- Willing to accept supervision, work independently and as part of a team.
- Willing to follow a camp dress code.
- Completion of a child protection course (part of our staff training).
- Offers are contingent upon successful completion of a background check.
- Tobacco, drugs, alcohol and weapons are not permitted at El Ranchito or during Virtual El Ranchito.