

# Volunteer Play Facilitator

*Volunteer Play Facilitators initiate play with children through example, guidance and instruction in Cincinnati Nature Center's Marge and Charles Schott Nature Playscape. By becoming a Play Facilitator, you help children of all ages have hands-on nature experiences while developing their comfort in the natural world and expanding their creativity and confidence. Play Facilitators will serve to assist children while they build forts, dig, play with water and explore the natural world.*

## TRAINING AND SUPPORT

To become a Play Facilitator, attend Nature Mentors Level I and Nature Mentors Level II: Playing in Nature. In the Level I class, Play Facilitators will learn techniques for mentoring children outdoors, basic natural history information and management skills that naturalists use to focus a group's attention, keep a group together, and involve all participants in an outdoor experience. In the Level II class, Play Facilitators learn the theory and practice of re-discovering natural play in a total immersion experience with optional overnight camping.

## QUALIFICATIONS

Volunteers interested in becoming a Play Facilitator should have an interest and enthusiasm for sharing nature with children of all ages, be physically able to move, engage and help children in the outdoors for a prolonged period of time and must be 18 or older.

## TIME COMMITMENT

Play Facilitators may choose their own dates and times to volunteer, coordinating their schedules through CNC's Volunteer Coordinator. Play Facilitators should be willing to volunteer for two 3-hour shifts per month seasonally from May through September.

## SUGGESTED READING

- *Last Child in the Woods* by Richard Louv
- *A Parent's Guide to Nature Play* by Ken Finch ([www.greenheartsinc.org](http://www.greenheartsinc.org))
- *The Playwork Primer* by Penny Wilson

## MORE INFORMATION

For more information on becoming a Volunteer Play Facilitator, visit us online at [www.CincyNature.org/become-volunteer.html](http://www.CincyNature.org/become-volunteer.html) or contact Volunteer Coordinator Sarah Holland at (513) 831-1711 ext. 128.



© Tim Knight