

Madeline H. Chester

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I received my undergraduate degree in environmental and sustainability studies with a minor in biology in 2017. I received my master's degree in environmental science with a focus in environmental education in 2024. I am seeking a career in the environmental education field. My areas of interest include conservation, zoology, forestry, botany, and marine biology. I am always organized, prepared, and enjoy working in teams, contributing both as a team member and as a leader. I am a problem solver committed to putting my best foot forward and producing quality work.

EXPERIENCE

Micke Grove Zoo Education Department

Jan 2019- Present

- Updated the education department to meet AZA standards.
- Created new animal and nature-related programs for the department that follow California's Next Generation Science Standards for grades TK-12.
- Taught animal and nature-related programs to kids ages 2-18
- Created and led summer camps for kids ages 5-12
- Created and led programs to help individual scouts and scout groups earn badges and complete projects.
- Created events held at the zoo for Earth Day, Halloween, and Christmas
- Started up a volunteer program for the zoo
- Started up a docent program for the zoo
- Updated signs for various zoo animals
- Managed and created content for the zoo's social media pages.
- Provided animal care including feeding, cleaning, and medicating several species such as African Leopard Tortoises, Red-tailed Hawk, Blue Tongued Skink, Kenyan Sand Boa, Western Pond Turtles, African Bull Frog, etc.
- Primary trainer of the education animals: Red-tailed Hawk, Bearded Dragons, African Leopard Tortoises, Red-eared Slider, and Dumeril's Boa.
- Assisted with the care of various zoo animals such as Lemurs, Pudus, Tamarins, Turkey Vultures, Golden Eagle, Bobcat, Golden Mantella Frogs, Standing's Day Gecko, Radiated Tortoises, etc.

USDA Forest Service Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area Feb-Nov 2018
Brandon Spring group center

- Checked groups into and out of the group center.
- Led several environmental education programs including orienteering, pond study, and bat study for school groups from 2nd grade to high school.
- Led low ropes course.

Woodlands Nature Station May- Sep 2018

- Planned and participated in animal programs for Woodland Nature Station.
- Provided care for animals at Woodland Nature Station (feeding, cleaning enclosures).
- Assisted in several events held at Woodland Nature Station including Cool Critter Day and Hummingbird Fest.
- Handled program animals and glove-trained birds of prey daily.
- Assisted with outdoor excursions including canoe and kayaking trips.
- Assisted in the care of pollinator gardens.
- Led and assisted on nature hikes.

Education Department of the McHenry County Conservation District Jun-Aug 2017

- Helped plan five different environmental programs for children and adults. Assisted with setup of different programs and educated participants about the flora and fauna of the area.
- Assisted with organizing week-long day camps for children. Taught campers about wildlife and led them through art projects centered around nature.

Fox Valley Wildlife Center Intern May-Aug 2017

- Completed physicals and documented findings for animals brought to the center.
- Provided care for the animals at the center (feeding, giving medicine, cleaning cages).

Honeybee Experience May-Aug 2017

- Assisted neighbor with small business by maintaining honeybee hives and collecting honey.

Honeybee Conservation Mar-Apr 2017

- Designed a website that informs people about honeybees, why they are important, what is harming them, and what people can do to help.

Kathleen Clay Edwards Library

Sep-Dec 2016

- Designed, planted, and maintained two new vegetable gardens to educate children about gardening and to provide food for those in need.
- Planned 20 activities that educated children about nature and got them interested in spending time outside and caring about the environment.
- Assisted with five programs that educated adults about different outdoor activities and informed them about different environmental books and videos.

Composed and Submitted Green Fund Proposal

Oct 2016

- Participated in a group project that submitted a green fund proposal, \$1,120 per semester, to create a sustainability webpage for UNCG.

CERTIFICATIONS

- CPR/ first aid
- Challenge course
- USDA Forest Service defensive driving course
- Project Learning Tree
- San Juan County vehicle driving course

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

UNCGreen Organization

Jan-Sep 2016

- Raised money to fund two separate sustainability projects for UNCG's campus .

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Apr 2014

- Bronze Award in Leadership

Girl Scouts

2002-2010

- Bronze award
- Silver award

- Camp councilor

EDUCATION

Master's Degree: Oregon State University

- Environmental Science with a focus in Environmental Education
- Overall GPA: 3.91/4.00

Bachelor's Degree: The University of North Carolina at Greensboro

- Environmental and Sustainability Studies, Minor: Biology
- Overall GPA: 3.66/4.00, Dean's List (8 semesters)