Job Description

Job Title: Nature Playleader (After School Club)
Location: Oasisplay Nature Garden
Reporting to: Garden Co-ordinator

1.0 Purpose of the Role

To plan, prepare, and deliver engaging, child-led nature and environmental play activities during after-school sessions at the Oasisplay Nature Garden. Working in alignment with our Heritage Lottery Project, the postholder will foster curiosity, environmental awareness, and a love for the outdoors among local children, while ensuring a safe, inclusive, and welcoming play environment.

2.0 Key Responsibilities

2.1 Play Delivery and Engagement

- **Activity Planning:** Design and deliver creative, inclusive, and age-appropriate nature-based play and environmental activities (e.g., pond-dipping, bug-hunts, gardening, outdoor crafts, and wildlife conservation).
- **Project Alignment:** Ensure all activities align with the themes, key topics, and outcomes set out by the Heritage Lottery Project Lead, while bringing your own creative ideas and initiative to the sessions.
- **Session Preparation:** Prepare the Nature Garden and set up all necessary resources, tools, and learning materials (such as pond nets, specimen trays, posters, and worksheets) prior to the children's arrival.
- **Child-Centred Practice:** Facilitate free play alongside structured activities, encouraging children to explore, take managed risks, and engage with the natural world at their own pace. *(Note: Opportunity to cover or deliver additional sessions during school holidays by mutual agreement).*

2.2 Health, Safety, and Site Security

- **Safeguarding & Welfare:** Maintain the highest standards of child safeguarding and welfare at all times, adhering strictly to Oasisplay's Safeguarding and Child Protection policies.
- **Risk Management:** Conduct dynamic daily visual checks of the garden and equipment prior to sessions, and adhere to all written Risk Assessments and Health and Safety guidelines.
- **Site Security & Maintenance:** Take responsibility for the cleanliness, tidiness, and security of the site during and after sessions. This includes locking up the prefab building, tool shed,

greenhouses, and outside toilet, as well as ensuring the kitchen, classroom, and toilet facilities are left clean and hygienic.

2.3 Administration, Monitoring, and Teamwork

- **Data Collection:** Maintain accurate daily attendance registers and collect qualitative and quantitative monitoring data (e.g., children's feedback, observations, and session outcomes) to support Heritage Lottery reporting.
- **Collaboration & Meetings:** Attend scheduled monthly team meetings with the Project Lead and Garden Co-ordinator to review progress, share ideas, and contribute to the wider development of the Nature Garden.
- **General Duties:** Undertake any other reasonable duties commensurate with the role as agreed with the Garden Co-ordinator.

2.4 Organisational Policies

- Demonstrate a strong, active commitment to Oasisplay's Equal Opportunities, Diversity and Inclusion, and Environmental Sustainability policies in all aspects of your work.

Person Specification

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Experience	• Proven experience working with children (aged 5–12) in a playwork, outdoor learning, youth, or educational setting. • Experience planning and leading engaging group activities for children.	• Experience working within an adventure playground or community garden setting. • Experience delivering activities linked to heritage, wildlife, or environmental projects.
Skills & Knowledge	• Strong understanding of playwork principles and the benefits of outdoor/nature play. • Practical knowledge of Health and Safety, risk-benefit assessments, and Safeguarding procedures. • Ability to manage challenging behaviour positively and inclusively. • Good organisational skills for session prep and basic record-keeping.	• Knowledge of UK urban wildlife, gardening, or environmental conservation. • Ability to collect monitoring and evaluation data for funded projects.

Personal Attributes	• Enthusiastic, creative, and able to bring your own ideas to life. • Reliable, punctual, and able to work independently as well as part of a small team. • Willingness to work outdoors in all weather conditions. • Strong commitment to equal opportunities and inclusion.	• Current Paediatric First Aid certificate. • Level 2 or 3 qualification in Playwork, Forest School, Childcare, or Environmental Education.

Summary of Terms and Conditions

- **Contract Type:** Part-time, Term-Time Only (with potential for additional holiday cover by agreement).
- **Working Hours: 7 hours per week** (3.5 hours per day across 2 days), plus **1 additional hour per month** for team meetings.
- **Working Pattern: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm** (6 hours face-to-face/site time), plus **30 minutes flexible planning time** per session (1 hour total per week) to be worked around your schedule.
    - *Typical Session Breakdown:*
        - **3:00 pm – 3:45 pm:** Site check, resource preparation, and activity set-up.
        - **3:45 pm – 5:30 pm:** After-school session delivery and play facilitation.
        - **5:30 pm – 6:00 pm:** Clean-up, monitoring data logging, and site lock-up.
- **Meetings:** Attendance at a 1-hour monthly planning and review meeting with the Project Lead and wider team (paid in addition to weekly hours).
- **Salary:** £16.00 per hour *(pro-rata for term-time only)*.
- **Holiday Entitlement:** Paid annual leave pro-rata to statutory entitlement, to be taken during school holidays.
- **Pre-Employment Checks:** This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. Appointment is subject to an **Enhanced DBS check** (including a check of the Children's Barred List) and two satisfactory references.