

# ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATOR GREEN JOB FACT SHEET



Environmental educators help youth and adults learn about forests and the environment by engaging people in hands-on experiences in the natural world. They provide facts, answer questions, and lead interactive field trips, hikes, and workshops. Environmental educators often teach outdoors, using forests and camps as their classrooms. They also spend time researching to make sure they are providing accurate, relevant information.

## THE BIG PICTURE

Environmental educators help create the next generation of environmental stewards by:

- Building awareness about the environment and empowering the transition to sustainability.
- Building critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Making real-world connections using science, math, and technology.

## IS THIS CAREER RIGHT FOR YOU?

Environmental educators enjoy learning about the world around them and work with people of all ages and education levels. They often must adapt to new situations and scenarios. To succeed in this job, you need flexibility, adaptability, and the ability to communicate well.

## MOVING FORWARD



Here's a path of study that could lead to a career in environmental education. You'll likely need a four-year college degree.

**HIGH SCHOOL:** Focus on science (especially biology), social sciences, math, and geography classes. Gain experience working with kids and members of the public by volunteering at a community center or becoming a camp counselor.

**COLLEGE:** Work toward a bachelor's degree in education, environmental science, natural resources, conservation, or similar fields.

For more about green jobs, visit [www.plt.org/workingforforests](http://www.plt.org/workingforforests)

Are you a strong **COMMUNICATOR**? Do you enjoy **LEADING** groups and helping others learn?

If so, this might be the perfect career for you!

## SALARY

U.S. salaries range from about \$34,000 to \$77,000 per year and average about \$50,900.

## WHERE CAN YOU GROW?

Careers in environmental education include ecotourism specialist, communications coordinator, sustainability manager, and parks interpreter. Some possible employers:

- Government agencies (state and federal)
- Forest industry
- Schools or universities
- Nonprofit organizations

