

Discovery Room Internship Program Summer 2018

The Discovery Room is an immersive, interactive exhibit space that offers all visitors, especially children ages 5-12, a gateway to the wonders of the Museum and a hands-on, behind-the scenes look at its science. Every major field of Museum science and research, from anthropology to zoology, is represented. Children, accompanied by adults, explore an array of artifacts, specimens, puzzles, and engaging scientific challenges. Activities in the room encourage visitors of all ages to practice science and explore topics of their own interest, all while exercising observation and process skills.

Participants in the Discovery Room summer internship program serve as facilitators, providing support and guidance to visitors as they find their way through the space. Facilitation requires the willingness to experiment with personal engagement styles and the challenge of incorporating inquiry methods and object-based teaching strategies into a fast-paced environment. Under the guidance of paid staff, interns will explore strategies for interpreting science concepts and developing new worksheets, exhibition elements, or facilitator training materials that incorporate those strategies across the program.

There is also the potential for participation in exhibit maintenance, animal husbandry, social media outreach, and curriculum development or materials preparation for special events and workshops. By the end of the summer, interns will complete a project consisting of either a prototype for a new interactive, drafts for new labels for existing exhibits, or a content guide for volunteers and interns in a subject area displayed in the Discovery Room. This project will be in line with the interests of the intern as well as current needs of the program.

Candidates must have experience working with young children and be able to maintain a professional demeanor at all times while serving diverse audiences. They must possess a strong curiosity for the natural world and an enthusiasm for sharing that curiosity with visitors of all ages. Research, writing, graphic design, and layout skills are a plus. Candidates must be willing to commit to a minimum of 100 hours or 3.5 days per week during the summer, including some weekend days.

To apply, send a resume and letter of interest to:

Sarah Moshenberg Manager of the Discovery Room and Museum Family Learning smoshenberg@amnh.org