



Animal Welfare Specialist 1 (AWS1) - Aquatics & Avian Job Description

Job Title: Animal Welfare Specialist (AWS) - Aquatics & Avian

Department: Marine Operations

Division: Exhibits

Reports to: Senior AWS/Assistant Curator of Exhibits

FLSA Status: Non-Exempt

Wage: Starting from \$16-17 per hour

Applications: Email CV/resumé to Valissa@coralworldvi.com

Job Summary:

Become a member of our Exhibits team at Coral World Ocean Park in sunny St Thomas, US Virgin Islands. We are looking for an experienced candidate that will carry out husbandry duties for the many animals and exhibits we offer to our guests. This demanding job requires attention to detail, time management skills and a positive attitude that can be shared with our visitors.

Duties/Responsibilities (Essential Functions): *Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform these essential functions.*

- Daily care and maintenance of the park's animal exhibits and collection including fish, rays, sharks, sea turtles, tropical birds and many others.
- Performs public presentations to large groups of guests and feeding demonstrations with the animals while interacting with guests to promote conservation and education messaging that supports the parks mission.
- Husbandry tasks include performing observational rounds, diet preparation, and disease recognition.
- Participating in basic animal training for some of the collection species.
- Maintaining daily record keeping in accordance with established procedures.
- Maintaining exhibits and pools, including the use of SCUBA for underwater tasks
- Participate in special events and educational programs.
- Keeping behind the scenes areas clean and organized.
- Collection of specimens for aquatic exhibits and assist with designing new exhibits.
- Working in a team environment and assist in all areas of the park, as needed.
- Perform other duties as assigned.

Supervisory Responsibilities:

- This position has no supervisory responsibilities.

Work Environment:

- This job operates in a professional environment (indoor and outdoor). The employee will be exposed to sunny, warm, humid, and wet conditions.
- Work performed by this role will be primarily outdoors regardless of weather conditions.
- This position requires staff to work in or underwater potentially on a daily basis.
- This role routinely uses standard equipment such as computers, phones, photocopiers, file cabinets, etc.

Physical demands

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by the employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this position. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions. This position requires the employee to stand/walk for most of his or her working hours but occasionally must stoop, kneel, or crouch. This position requires to walk around the park sometimes on uneven ground and up and down stairs. This position frequently required to reach with hands and arms, using hands to handle or feel. This position requires to be in constant communication with guests requiring the candidate to talk and hear. This position also must frequently lift and/or move up to 30 pounds and occasionally may lift and/or move up to 50 pounds.

Position Type and Expected Hours of Work

This is a full-time position. Days are scheduled 5 days a week between Sunday - Saturday for a 40-hour work week. During emergencies such as Hurricanes or other natural disasters, you may be expected to work 50+ hours per week.

Eligibility Requirements

Required:

- Bachelor's degree in Marine Biology, Zoology, Biology, or related field.
- Must be able to lift 50 lbs., and able to pass a swim/endurance test.
- Open Water SCUBA certification required from accredited agency.
- Must be a team player with strong communication skills, have a positive attitude, and an outgoing personality, with the ability to work well unsupervised.
- Must be aware of the challenges of living on a Caribbean island (high cost of living, working in the sun and heat all day, etc.).
- Basic computer skills and knowledge of Microsoft Excel.
- Flexible with non-traditional schedules (working holidays and weekends).
- Must be able to work in the U.S.

Preferred:

- Professional experience in an aquarium or marine-related field.
- Wants to work in the Hospitality Industry.
- Bilingual

Special Eligibility Requirements:

- Ability to work flexible schedule, including evenings, weekends and holidays.



- Must be a team player and be able to get along well with others.
- Must be able to use tact in handling sensitive situations.
- Must be personable, courteous, and able to work under pressure.

Other duties

Please note this job description is not designed to contain a comprehensive listing of activities, duties or responsibilities that are required of the employee for this job. Management reserves the right to revise the job or to require that other or different tasks be performed when circumstances change (example: emergencies, changes to personnel, workload, rush jobs, or technological developments). Duties, responsibilities, and activities may change at any time with or without notice.

Signature

Employee signature below indicates the employee's understanding of the requirements, essential functions, and duties of the Animal Welfare Specialist – Aquatics & Avian position. Employee understands that they are responsible for the satisfactory execution of the essential functions described therein, under all conditions as described.

Employee Name _____

Date _____

Employee
Signature _____