 

**Plant Education Volunteer**

**Role description**

**About South London Botanical Institute (SLBI)**

The Institute was set up a hundred years ago by Allan O. Hume, who wished to bring an interest in botany to working people in Tulse Hill. It has changed little since then and the Institute presents modern resources within a unique historic environment, much of which is still as Hume would remember it. The Institute provides facilities for the study of plants, including ecology and conservation and aims to encourage interest in all aspects of plant life. It has enabled many to develop a satisfying and absorbing interest, become better botanists, pursue their own studies, share their knowledge with like-minded individuals and contribute to our natural heritage. The Institute has a beautiful garden as well as a botanic library and herbarium.

**What is a Plant Education Volunteer?**

The South London Botanical Institute offers tailor-made plant education sessions for visiting school groups, in particular primary school age, but in addition run family activities during school holidays and a choice of plant related sessions for teenagers.

What is involved?

* Supporting educational activities
* Guiding groups of children through the garden
* Assisting with art and crafts activities
* Helping with the setup and tidying up of activities
* Preparing resource material
* Other tasks as necessary

**This role will suit people who…**

* Love working with children or young people
* Enjoy enthusing children and young people about nature
* Are looking for work experience in an educational environment
* Considering a career in environmental education

**Applying for a placement**

Please complete an application form and return either by e-mail to info@slbi.org.uk or by post to South London Botanical Institute, 323 Norwood Road, London SE24 9AQ. You will be invited for an informal interview.

**What’s in it for you?**

* Learning about plants and botanical history
* Joining a team of dedicated and enthusiastic plant lovers
* Working in an unusual place, often described as ‘hidden gem of South London’

**Extra information**

**Time commitment:** During term-times, we run 1- 2 sessions on a Tuesday and/or a Wednesday and volunteers can either attend the whole day or one session only**.**

 Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9:30 – 12:00 and/or 12:15 - 14:45.

 Various day time holiday activity sessions during school holidays and some weekends.

**Training/Resources:** Induction and necessary trainingwill be provided;

After 50 hours of volunteering, volunteers are able to benefit from free SLBI workshops (up to a certain limit).

**Line manager:** Plant Education Co-ordinator

**Expenses:** Out-of pocket travel costs from home to SLBI up to £10. Lunch costs can be recovered for a whole day’s volunteering.

**Getting there**

Tulse Hill train station is five minutes’ walk away.

The Institute is just off the A205 South Circular Road. Please note, there is limited parking nearby.

Bus routes 2, 68, 196, 322, 415, 432 and 468 pass close to the Institute.