



FREE KIDS ACADEMY

Free Kids Academy is the future of education. A K-8 school nestled among the charming historic streetscape of Hastings, Florida, students are immersed in the natural world, where authentic, experience-based learning nurtures the unlimited curiosity and boundless creativity inherent in each child. At Free Kids Academy, the classroom is a community where children are celebrated and supported as individuals, allowing their infinite potential to be expressed in unique ways.

Here, you will guide and grow each child's connection to their emotional, social, physical, environmental, and spiritual consciousness, co-creating opportunities that unfold every child's inner genius. You know that all students are capable of greatness and achievement far beyond what society has been conditioned to accept.

Free Kids Academy will debut during the 2024-2025 school year. Located in the deeply rooted and historic Hastings Main Street community, we offer a hybrid or full-time education for children in grades K-8.

We seek educators who can skillfully create and implement an interdisciplinary approach to learning that fosters free thinking and open-ended exploration in a positive, holistic learning environment. At this time, we are accepting applications for Head of School and four lead teachers. Additional openings will be announced at a later date. To learn more about Free Kids Academy and register for employment openings updates, please visit <https://freekidsacademy.com> and sign up for newsletters.

Open Positions: Four Lead Teachers

Lower K-3rd Elementary Teachers and Upper 4th-8th Elementary Teacher

Job Description:

Responsibilities of teachers will include, but are not limited to:

- Establish and maintain a respectful relationship with each student that values his/her uniqueness
- Embrace your role as a guide on the side, mentor, and a facilitator of learning skilled in your ability to create both a teacher guided and student guided classroom environment
- Activate deeper student engagement in learning by using holistic, interest-driven, real-world context as its pedagogical foundation
- Partner with all members of the Free Kids Academy community in developing a creative, nurturing learning environment where student interests and real-world, problem and project-based learning experiences shape the curriculum
- Design collaborative learning models where all students experience success while supporting students in constructing multiple pathways to a future they have a hand in creating
- Customize the educational experience to each individual understanding that there are many paths to learning and growing
- Utilize a blended supporting style when assisting students
- Implement a differentiated approach to teaching with demonstrated strengths in differentiating content, process, products, and the learning environment
- Create assessments that are authentic and an ongoing, organic part of instruction knowing that children are diverse thinkers varied in the ways they view tasks, problems, solutions, and outcomes

- Be an active member of the Free Kids Academy community through participation in activities outside of the classroom including, but not limited to, Back to School Night(s), parent, teacher, and student conferences, retreats, faculty meetings, field trips, and special activities and performance events
- Demonstrate a continuous growth mindset toward student learning, teaching practice, and personal/collective professional growth and development
- Demonstrate the ability to create cohesion and collaboration in an educational setting
- Exemplify the Free Kids Academy mission, core values, and educational model

Desired Competencies and Qualifications:

- Bachelor's or master's degree in elementary education, teaching, or related field. Master's degree preferred. Additional certification/endorsement in reading, physical education, math or a relevant field preferred
- Valid State Teacher Certification approved by the State Department of Education (preferred)
- Minimum 2 years of experience delivering interdisciplinary, experiential, holistic education programs (preferred experience with elementary and middle school-aged children)
- Empower students to take thoughtful risks, engage in experiential learning, persist in problem solving, embrace collaboration, and work through the creative process
- Experience in developing curricula and/or formal lesson planning that empowers students to take thoughtful risks, engage in experiential learning, persist in problem solving, embrace collaboration, and work through the creative process
- Ability to create classroom experiences utilizing a holistic learning model

- Experience in mixed-aged classrooms preferred
- First Aid/CPR Certification or ability to complete upon employment
- A valid US driver's license and a personal vehicle required
- Must be able to complete a Criminal History Record Check

Our model has 6 main components and you must be qualified to teach 3 or more areas.

1. *Essential Life Skills*

- Ability to teach knowledge and skills related to life skills.

2. *Integrated Movement*

- Experience in developing curricula and/or formal lesson planning that integrates areas of physical activity, human movement, fitness, health and wellness, responsible and conscious behavior, and the benefits of physical activity and healthy choices
- Ability to teach knowledge and skills in physical fitness, health education, fundamentals of body movement, rhythms, dance, mindfulness, yoga, and individual, dual, or team sports
- Ability to support and strengthen students' physical, behavioral, emotional, social and academic skills through the discovery and exploration of physical activities that maintain and enhance healthy lifestyles

3. *Language Arts*

- Ability to provide reading and writing instruction utilizing a balanced literacy approach across multiple content areas

4. *Mathematics*

- Ability to integrate areas of financial literacy, 21st century skills, STEAM, and subject area content that focuses on real world Math applications, project-based learning, real world problems and creative solutions

- Ability to assist students in making meaningful connections between the mathematical strands, real-world applications, and their own experiences

5. *Holistic Units*

- Ability to integrate areas of language arts, social studies, 21st century skills, STEAM, and subject area content that focuses on real world applications, project-based learning, real world problems, and creative solutions

6. *Creative Exploration*

- Ability to act as a guide to support students' research, organize guest teachers/speakers, and instruct small group lessons based on students interests.

Compensation and Benefits:

- This is a full time, 9.5 Month Position
- Flexible Scheduling and Summer Programming an option
- Health and Wellness Package Incentives
- Family Tuition Incentives
- Competitive Salary

Free Kids Academy is currently accepting applications.

To apply, please email the following documents to lead@freekidsacademy.com:

- **Cover Letter:** Please include in a cover letter of 2 pages or less a description of why you would be a good fit for this position and answer the following: "I believe students learn best when..."
- **Resume** (2 pages or less): Please include contact information for 3 peer or professional references.
- **2 Letters of Reference:** At least one should be from a supervisor of a past education position, supervisor of teaching position, or professor of education.

Application Process:

1. Apply
 - Application (Online)
 - Cover Letter (Emailed)
 - Resume (Emailed)

- Letters of Reference (Emailed)
- 2. Interview
- 3. Present a Lesson (Applicable to teacher positions)

Free Kids Academy is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to welcoming and celebrating a diverse student and faculty population. We believe every employee has the right to work in an environment free from all forms of unlawful discrimination. It is the policy of the school that employment decisions for all applicants and employees will be made without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, genetic information, marital status, veteran status, disability or other characteristics protected under local, state or federal law. We seek each employee's contribution and assistance in helping us maintain equal employment opportunity.