

**KRISTEN K. OLSON**

2727 SW Upper Drive, Portland, Oregon 97201

kristen.kelly.olson@gmail.com

503.730.1403

July 14, 2011

Dear Hiring Manager,

I am writing to apply for the position of Field Educator. I graduated with a degree in Biological Anthropology and a minor in African Studies from the University of Oregon, and have been part of the Conservation Education department at the Oregon Zoo for six summers. I am seeking to find a job that will allow me to combine my interests in nature and science and my love for education and working with people.

I have experience educating about wildlife and the environment. The majority of my time at the Oregon Zoo has been spent teaching children enrolled in the summer camp program about animals and conservation. For three summers, my position as Camp Specialist gave me the opportunity to develop the educational curriculums for the camps that I led. In my position as Assistant Camp Coordinator I helped train and mentor fifty staff members. In this role I was often used as a resource for solving various problems that staff members had with parents, children, and co-workers. I needed to think on my feet and make educated decisions quickly and calmly, always keeping a positive and professional attitude.

I recently returned home from six months of living and working in Panama as a field research assistant. My days were spent collecting data on very energetic spider monkeys off trail through a rainforest with steep terrain and high heat and humidity. I am in good shape and enjoy jobs that are active.

My experiences at the Oregon zoo and working in Panama have allowed me to develop skills that are important for the role of Field Educator. This position seems to be a great combination of the things I have liked most about my past jobs. I am a hard worker and am confident that if given this opportunity I would perform well in this position.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kristen Olson