

February 15, 2011

902 North Cascade Avenue Worner Box 1630  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Ms. Kim Laizer  
Mentor Teacher  
Yosemite Institute  
P.O. Box 487  
Yosemite, CA 95389

Dear Ms. Kim Laizer,

Please accept this letter of interest for a 2011 field educator position with Yosemite Institute. I have extensive experience with grades K-12 and am a firm believer in the value of outdoor education. A field educator position would provide the opportunity to further enhance my leadership skills.

In addition to my work ethic and commitment, I possess the characteristics necessary to succeed as a field educator. I know how to create engaging inquiry-based curriculum. I am passionate about stimulating higher order thinking in students through inductive and constructivist approaches. I first became involved in outdoor education during high school in Portland, Oregon. I taught ecological concepts through hikes in the woods, arts, crafts, songs and skits with the Friends of Tryon Creek State Park for two summers. I also taught hydrology with Multnomah County Education Service District's Outdoor School program. For weeklong sessions I instructed small groups of sixth graders on Water Field Study.

At Colorado College I have learned about the breadth of instructional strategies through placements in elementary and middle school classrooms in Colorado Springs public schools. I know how to create lesson plans geared towards Colorado's Academic Standards that also appeal to the multiple intelligences. Although I do not yet have Wilderness First Responder certification, I will earn it early this summer. I have ample backpacking experience in Utah and am confident I would excel at leading trips with students. I have hiked the Sundance Trail in Dark Canyon and backpacked Canyonlands National Park. I have also summited the 14,115 feet of Pikes Peak via the Barr Trail and hiked among the Guadalupe Peaks in Texas. A Yosemite Institute field educator position would cater towards my love of the outdoors and provide excellent preparation for my career as a teacher.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I can be reached at (503) 201-4999. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Laura Turner