

Science and Discovery Cart Volunteer Presenters

Science and Discovery Cart presenters extend the Peoria Riverfront Museum's mission to educate and inspire visitors by engaging them with science, art, and history demonstrations using the Stream Table, Microscope, and Discovery Carts.

Science/Discovery Cart volunteers will be responsible for

- Attending all necessary training sessions.
- Learning educational material that is provided.
- Presenting the educational material to museum visitors with a fun, upbeat, respectful attitude.
- Engaging museum visitors by using the training and presentation materials.
- Inspiring museum visitors to continue their learning through the exhibits.
- Assisting visitors with questions regarding the Science/Discovery Carts as well as general museum information.

Training and Time Commitment

The goal for the Science/Discovery Cart presenters is to provide a welcoming and engaging atmosphere in which children and adults are excited to learn about science, art, and history.

Volunteers receive training with museum staff and training materials to take home and review. Training is broken into several steps which are as follows: initial training session, observing an experienced presenter, presenting to a staff audience, leading a presentation with the experienced presenter present, and finally, the presenter will be evaluated by the experienced presenter on their performance. This volunteer position is meant for volunteers who are enthusiastic about learning and presenting educational information and are comfortable in a public speaking atmosphere. Volunteers who are interested do not need to have a strong background in the topic; they just need a passion to learn and educate.

The Science/Discovery Cart volunteers will be stationed in the Peoria Riverfront Museum's lobby, River Science Lab, and Hands On Area. The Science/Discovery Cart volunteers are expected to report to the Volunteer Coordinator and the VP of Programs.

The time commitment for this volunteer position is based on the level of training that is involved with learning and presenting the information; volunteers who can donate a minimum of six hours per month are preferred with a minimum commitment of 4 months. Volunteers are needed during peak museum times Tuesday – Sunday between 12:00 and 4:00 p.m. and during field trip season, April through May, Monday – Friday 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Qualifications

- Comfortable speaking in front of small and large groups.
- Desire to learn educational materials; background in topic-specific knowledge is a plus though not required.
- Responsible and respectful to museum staff and visitors.
- Able to provide a welcoming and friendly atmosphere.
- Able to adapt quickly to changing circumstances.
- Professional manner and neat appearance.
- Reliable and dedicated to serving the community.