

Dr Beynon's Bug Farm Ltd

Job title: Bug Farm Seasonal Volunteer

Days per week: 3-5 days per week

Short/long term: Seasonal – March-September/October or a part of this period (no less than 4 weeks)

Paid/voluntary: Unpaid – volunteer position (multiple positions may be made available for the correct candidates)

We are offering a fantastic opportunity for students/early-career naturalist to get into the world of applied entomology/invertebrate zookeeping/ecology/nature recovery/outreach in a busy and vibrant visitor attraction and research centre. The varied role will involve:

- **Care of tropical and native invertebrates** – cleaning out, changing substrates, feeding, spraying, monitoring and record keeping.
- **Public outreach** – talking to visitors, leading and assisting Up-Close Meet the Bugs sessions, leading and assisting with school group visits, leading and assisting with guided tours.
- **Site maintenance** – routine cleaning, clearing, gardening, painting.
- **Conservation and land management** – planting of trees and plug plants, scrub clearance.
- **Research and ecological surveys/monitoring** – e.g. monitoring meadow/tree establishment, monitoring invertebrates (e.g. bee walks, butterfly transects, dung beetles and ground beetles), sorting of preserved samples, GIS, data analysis, writing reports.
- **Occasional ticket office and gift shop work** – welcoming visitors, shop sales.

Skills required

- An interest in invertebrates, wildlife and nature recovery.
- Quick to learn key information about the invertebrates we keep and to be able to pass this on in an engaging way to visitors.
- Confident in engaging with the general public and young people.
- Happy to assist, and after training, lead Up-Close Meet the Bugs sessions with up to 30 visitors/schoolchildren/students.
- Confident in approaching visitors and engaging them in conversation about the site and the invertebrates.
- Follows direction well.
- 100% reliable.
- Confident working in a busy environment.
- Self-motivated and proactive.

Additional useful skills

- Experience with customer service/outreach/public speaking.
- Experience in keeping/working with invertebrates – don't worry, many of us (Dr Beynon included) were terrified of spiders when we started! We don't handle our arachnids.
- Prior experience in moth trapping, pond dipping, running bug hunts, mounting and identification of invertebrates.
- An interest in sustainability, food and farming more widely.

Welsh speaking.

Application deadline: 18/02/2024

To apply please send us an e-mail or cover letter, detailing why you think you would be suitable for the position, and a CV to info@thebugfarm.co.uk Make sure to say which position you are interested in.

