

Cold Spring Harbor Fish Hatchery & Aquarium

Naturalist-In-Training Program

Thank you for showing interest in becoming a Naturalist-in-Training (NIT) at the Cold Spring Harbor Fish Hatchery & Aquarium. NIT's will learn what it is like to work at a summer program while gaining leadership skills and enjoying fun, outdoor adventures. You will work in a team as you assist Hatchery education staff and become small group leaders during activities. Throughout the summer you will have an opportunity to participate in at least one week of programs.

Naturalists-in-Training must be at least 13 years old, entering 8th grade in September 2026, and have participated in Junior Biologists in previous years. The Junior Biologists requirement can be waived on a case-by-case basis for students entering grades 9-12.

The application deadline is **June 1st**. Applications will be placed in the order they are received. Spaces are limited so send in your application early. Applications received after June 1st will only be accepted if spaces remain available.

A mandatory orientation for all NIT's will be on **Monday, June 29, 2026** from 10am-2pm. During orientation we will discuss your responsibilities, do hands-on experiments, and practice techniques while visiting Franklin's Pond. You will also receive a Hatchery T-shirt.

Naturalist-in-Training Application

NIT's Name: _____ Age (Summer 2026): _____

Parent 1: _____ Parent 2: _____ Grade (Sept 2026): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email*: _____

**Important program information will be sent through email.*

Hatchery Member: Yes No Exp. Date: _____

T-shirt size*: _____

**Please indicate if youth or adult size.*

Payment Information

A non-refundable payment of **\$200** is due with your application.

Cash Check Charge

**Checks can be made payable to CSH Fish Hatchery.*

Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____ CVC: _____

- **Naturalists-in-training must be at least 13 years old, entering 8th grade in September 2026, and have participated in Junior Biologists in previous years. The Junior Biologists requirement can be waived on a case-by-case basis for students entering grades 9-12.**
- **All payments are final and cannot be refunded or transferred.**
- **No refunds or makeups for illnesses, absences or cancellations.**
- **There will be a \$20 per program transfer fee for changing your program session. Transfers must be done at least 2 weeks in advance and are subject to availability.**
- **I understand that the NIT Orientation on June 29, 2025 is mandatory.**

I have read and agree to the terms listed above. A signature is required to complete the registration.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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Naturalist-In-Training Program

Questionnaire

1. Have you previously participated in summer programs at CSHFHA or another organization?

2. What were your favorite activities?

3. What were your least favorite activities?

4. What activities or hobbies do you participate in?

5. Why do you want to be a Naturalist-in-Training?

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Naturalist-In-Training Program

Availability

Naturalists-in-Training will have the opportunity to participate in at least one week during the summer program season. Your completed application is due by **June 1**, though we recommend submitting it early. Applications will be processed in the order they are received, and space for each session is limited. Applications received after June 1 will be accepted only if space remains available.

Check off all programs you are interested in assisting with. You may star up to five preferred programs. While we cannot guarantee placement in all requested programs, we encourage you to indicate every program you are available for and interested in assisting with. A schedule is available in our summer program brochure. Please review the program descriptions to learn more about each program. Your schedule will be assigned shortly after the application deadline.

I am interested in and available to assist during the following programs:

Week of June 29	<input type="checkbox"/> Curious Naturalists A	<input type="checkbox"/> Close Encounters A	<input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Photography A
Week of July 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Field Explorers A <input type="checkbox"/> Curious Naturalists B	<input type="checkbox"/> Junior Biologists A* <input type="checkbox"/> Pond Adventures A	<input type="checkbox"/> Pond Experience A <input type="checkbox"/> Salt Marsh Exploration A
Week of July 13	<input type="checkbox"/> Slimy Science A <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Adaptations A <input type="checkbox"/> Young Birders A	<input type="checkbox"/> Mad Science A <input type="checkbox"/> Cool Experiments A	<input type="checkbox"/> Wild & Wacky Weather A <input type="checkbox"/> Survival Skills A
Week of July 20	<input type="checkbox"/> Mad Science B <input type="checkbox"/> Cool Experiments B <input type="checkbox"/> Field Explorers B	<input type="checkbox"/> Wild & Wacky Weather B <input type="checkbox"/> Slimy Science B <input type="checkbox"/> Junior Biologists B*	<input type="checkbox"/> Animal Adaptations B <input type="checkbox"/> Pond Experience B <input type="checkbox"/> Salt Marsh Exploration B
Week of July 27	<input type="checkbox"/> Close Encounters B <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Photography B	<input type="checkbox"/> Survival Skills B <input type="checkbox"/> Young Birders B	<input type="checkbox"/> Curious Naturalists C
Week of August 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Field Explorers C <input type="checkbox"/> Wild & Wacky Weather C <input type="checkbox"/> Slimy Science C	<input type="checkbox"/> Junior Biologists C* <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Adaptations C <input type="checkbox"/> Mad Science C	<input type="checkbox"/> Salt Marsh Exploration C <input type="checkbox"/> Cool Experiments C <input type="checkbox"/> Survival Skills C
Week of August 10	<input type="checkbox"/> Curious Naturalists D <input type="checkbox"/> Pond Experience C	<input type="checkbox"/> Pond Adventures B	<input type="checkbox"/> Field Explorers D

**NIT's looking to assist during the Junior Biologists program must be entering at least 9th grade.*

Additional scheduling comments: _____

I understand that as a Naturalist-in-Training I must receive a positive evaluation each week to continue assisting additional programs throughout the summer. If my availability changes before the application deadline, I will email an updated list of availability to krissyf@cshfishhatchery.org.

Naturalist-in-Training's Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Date