

VOLUNTEER ROLE DESCRIPTION | Knowledge Leader

This is a "Fire" Leader role. A "Fire" is a group of approx. 10 Young Explorers.

Expedition parties consist of up to 5 Fires, (each led by a second, and possibly third Leader) and the Base Camp team.

Overview

In partnership with a second, and possibly third Leader, you will lead a Fire of 8-12 Young Explorers. The Knowledge Leader role is to Inspire curiosity in science, media and the environment they are in through the experiences we provide. To give young people the tools to explore their curiosity through the development of skills and practical techniques. To achieve this, it is the responsibility of the Senior Knowledge Leader, Knowledge Leaders and the collaboration of all leaders to design and deliver a programme of inspirational, educational projects.

Senior Knowledge Leaders

will take overall responsibility for all knowledge projects taking place on their expedition. This will involve designing the overall knowledge plan for the expedition, in liaison with other Knowledge Leaders and coordination of skills training sessions at the training weekends. The Senior Knowledge Leader will liaise with British Exploring Society and the Chief Leader to identify and source any equipment requirements for the expedition. Post expedition they will compile and edit a Knowledge Report in collaboration with other expedition Knowledge Leaders.

Responsibilities

Pre-Expedition

- Attend all relevant training events (either online or in-person residentials) in the UK prior to the expedition including Technical Competency training. UK Training requirements are specific to each expedition and may include 3-4 training weekends and/or a training week. **All training events are mandatory.**
- Contribute to planning, Risk Assessments, expedition-specific guidelines and similar, as appropriate and directed by British Exploring Society and/or the Chief Leader, particularly in your area of expertise.
- Plan your group's Knowledge activities, including John Muir Award delivery, in liaison with the Senior Knowledge Leader and other expedition Leaders.
- Work with the Senior Knowledge Leader to submit a Project Proposal and request for any necessary equipment and materials (scientific, media, artistic) within the specified budget.
- Liaise with the British Exploring Society team to identify media content objectives to support wider organisational projects and marketing activities.

On Expedition

- All responsibilities pertaining to the safety, wellbeing and development of your Fire in the field are shared with the other Fire Leaders.
- Ensure the safety of each and every member of the expedition programme at all times.
- Carry out the planned adventurous and knowledge activities, facilitating learning opportunities for all Young Explorers in your group.
- Facilitate one-to-one and team reflections and reviews with the Young Explorers in your group, to support individual goal setting and personal development.
- Inspire participants to engage fully in activities to support the aims and purpose of British Exploring Society and the expedition.
- Provide behaviour management, pastoral care and support for Young Explorers within your group.
- An enthusiasm for your subject and the ability to convey this to our participants.
- Assume responsibility of the delivery of the planned Knowledge programme.
- Produce and facilitate the creation of media content as per pre-agreement with British Exploring Society.

Post Expedition

- Contribute to the overall post expedition report (PXR) and expedition feedback as appropriate and directed by British Exploring Society, Chief Leader and/or Senior Knowledge Leader.
- Where relevant, assist in providing follow-up for projects as appropriate.
- Attend the expedition debrief event & presentation. This is usually a single day event held in London approximately 2 months after your return from expedition.

Person Specification

*LP = Leader Profile

AD = Assessment Day

I = Interview

Essential Skills	Assessment*
An interest in youth development and experience of working with young people ¹	LP, AD, I
Expertise in a relevant field (science, art, media) and ability to facilitate sessions/activities around this knowledge to participants	LP, I
High levels of integrity and sound judgement	AD, I
A strong and flexible team player	AD
Excellent interpersonal and communication skills	AD, I
Strong leadership skills and the ability to inspire others	LP, AD, I
The ability to deal with conflict and overcome challenges	AD, I

¹ we work with a wide range of young people including those with special educational needs, low aspirations, emotional and behavioural difficulties or specific developmental or support needs.

Multi-night, experience in outdoor or remote/self-supporting environment	LP, I
Experience of managing groups in outdoor or remote/harsh environments	LP, I
An enthusiasm for expeditions and the ability to convey this to our Young Explorers	I
Recognised 16-hour adventure/wilderness First Aid Qualification (Provided free of charge by British Exploring Society if required)	LP

Personal Attributes

Core Value	How Core Values appear as a characteristic, behaviour or competency
Courage	Tackles new tasks, can embrace difficult decision-making and conversations, and supports other to do the same.
Self-belief	Is resilient, responds well to knock backs, likes opportunities to learn from mistakes.
Challenge	Has a can do attitude, gets hands on as needed, quickly learn from setbacks and adapt behaviour to drive success.
Community	Is an authentic, mature communicator who values a wide range of stakeholder equally.

Building an inclusive community of Leaders

British Exploring Society is committed to building an executive and volunteer team that together represent a diverse variety of backgrounds, skills, and perspectives on the world. The more inclusive we are, the better we think we'll be at delivering our charitable aims.

Our focus is on supporting those most disadvantaged in childhood and adolescence. To deliver our charitable aims, and secure our future, our actions and behaviours must support our commitment to welcoming young people, volunteers and team members from backgrounds and life experiences which reflect our aims and the changing dynamics of contemporary life. We are making good progress providing access and programmes which work for young people from right across society, but we urgently need to diversify our staff and volunteer teams. We actively seek the energy, wisdom, and challenge of those who represent the life experiences of the young people we serve, and who can increase our effectiveness as a team.

How to apply

We recruit volunteers on a rolling basis. Once you have expressed an interest, you will be invited to complete an application which will be reviewed and if successful, you will be invited to attend an online group half-day assessment.

1. [Express an interest](#).
2. Complete an application.
3. Attend an online group assessment day.