



LOWER ELEMENTARY TEACHING POSITION

Gillispie School is an independent K-6 school in La Jolla, CA. We are a vibrant community devoted to developing empathetic global citizens and resilient learners. We honor and foster each child's social, emotional, and intellectual journey.

Gillispie teachers ignite each child's creative and intellectual potential from early childhood to sixth grade. By designing authentic explorations and applying a cross-disciplinary approach, we help children discover their interests and passions. We encourage personal accountability and view mistakes as avenues for learning. Balancing academic programs with a constructivist philosophy, we prepare children for their futures in ways that challenge and nurture them along their educational paths. We embrace diversity and appreciate that differing views and life experiences help us generate insightful solutions. At Gillispie, every child is known.

Position description:

We seek a full-time **lower elementary Grade 2 educator** with a deep respect for children and a commitment to lifelong learning. Candidates must foster a nurturing classroom environment. Strong interpersonal skills, pedagogical expertise, a growth mindset, the ability to join our school culture, a good sense of humor, a commitment to professional development, and flexibility are essential attributes. Prior experience in a constructivist, inquiry-based environment at the elementary level is highly desired. Responsive Classroom and training in the Singapore math teaching method are preferred. Moreover, candidates should have some training and experience with instructional approaches firmly grounded in the Science of Reading (e.g., Orton-Gillingham, Wilson, Structured Literacy, etc.).

Minimum qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in elementary education or a related field
- Multi-subject Teaching Credential and/or MA in Education
- Minimum of two years teaching experience as a lead teacher in lower elementary (3-5 years or more classroom teaching experience in an independent school preferred)
- A solid understanding of curriculum design, project planning, and varied assessment strategies
- Ability to develop and maintain close parent relationships
- Excellent writing skills and digital literacy
- Experience and training in the Science of Reading
- Ability to collaborate well with other teachers and administrators

Primary responsibilities include:

- Plan and design lessons that align with Gillispie’s scope and sequence, school mission, and educational philosophy
- Foster a safe and inclusive environment where students feel valued, respected, and empowered
- Implement inquiry-based teaching methods to encourage critical thinking skills and curiosity
- Embody the innovator’s mindset, which is defined by curiosity, creativity, empathy, ethical problem-solving, resilience, critical thinking, and learning from mistakes
- Provide explicit instruction in phonics, decoding, and other foundational reading skills designed to help students develop the language processes needed for reading and writing
- Provide ongoing feedback and encouragement to students to build their confidence and promote a growth mindset
- Actively collaborate with other teachers for cross-disciplinary projects
- Use the Responsive Classroom approach to design, manage, and develop a consistent, caring classroom environment
- Work collaboratively with admin and other faculty to analyze student learning, differentiate instruction, ensure student agency in their learning, and foster a positive classroom culture that aligns with the Gillispie strategic plan, initiatives, and mission
- Contribute to the regular review, revision, and development of curricular scope and sequence and academic learner objectives with emphasis on the latest research in education, SEL, and neuroscience
- Attend weekly faculty meetings and provide active supervision while on assigned duties
- Commit to continual professional development
- Maintain accurate and timely electronic educational records for each student
- Uphold all practices, policies, and expectations outlined in the school’s employee handbook
- Communicate with stakeholders, students, families, administrators, and student support in a timely and professional manner concerning student progress
- Attend school functions as needed

Work Environment & Physical Requirements

- Full-time, on-campus position during the academic year.
- Work performed in classroom environments with typical interruptions and varying noise levels.
- Typical lower elementary school schedule with occasional evening or weekend commitments for school events, conferences, or professional responsibilities.
- Requires sitting, standing, walking, and movement throughout campus and classroom spaces.
- Ability to bend, reach, and move independently around campus.

Compensation

- \$68,000 - \$85,000 with benefits

Please reply with a letter of interest, resume, and references to Paul Ghiglieri, Assistant Head of School (pghiglieri@gillispie.org). Address in your letter your experience with constructivist approaches and programmatic literacy, writing, and math development strategies.

Gillispie School is committed to equal opportunity for all individuals in education and employment. School programs, activities, and practices will be free from discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying by reason of the following actual or perceived characteristics: sex/gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, transgender status, race, color, religion, ethnicity, ethnic group identification, ancestry, physical or mental disability, medical condition, age, military/veteran status, marital status, registered domestic partner status, pregnancy status, and any other characteristics protected by federal, state, or local law.