

# Sprout by Design

Design, Build, Educate, Grow

## Job: Garden Educator

**About Us:** Sprout by Design is a NYC based, minority & women-owned company whose mission is to "Design, Build, Educate, Grow." Co-founders Ilona de Jongh and Leslie Dweck work with an eye towards health, sustainability, social, environmental, and economic impact.

Sprout by Design builds urban farms, gardens, greenhouses, green walls, green fences, composting systems, chicken coops, and educational playgrounds for individuals of all ages and abilities. We pair these build structures with fun, hands-on workshops and curricula that use nature as a practical tool to teach design-build principles, STEAM standards, and broader concepts like problem-solving, healthy eating, environmental stewardship, and job training for opportunities in the emerging green economy. In addition to having great educational and economic impact, these workshops & activities also have calming, developmental, and therapeutic benefits.

Sprout by Design also provides programming and maintenance for existing gardens, helps community gardeners sell their produce to local restaurants, and leads urban farming workshops for students of all ages (preschool - seniors). Topics include gardening, hydroponics, composting, farm-to-table entrepreneurship, and chicken hatching. Finally, Sprout offers staff training, professional development, and family engagement activities for each program we create.

We service schools, community centers, houses of worship, detention centers, local restaurants, community gardens, rehabilitation centers, special needs organizations, and elder care residences. Our clients include: The U.S. Department of State, Brooklyn Public Library, NYRP, Marcus Samuelsson Group, Administration of Children's Services, American Dairy Association and Dairy Council, YAI, United Cerebral Palsy, Green Bronx Machine, Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement, Growing Up Green Charter School, Life Sciences Secondary School, and many more.

**Location:** All Five Boroughs of NYC

**Job type:** Part time to Full time

**Job Description:** The Garden Educator will lead urban farming, design-build, STEAM, and nutritional education workshops on urban farms across the five boroughs. The Garden Educator will also be responsible for the basic maintenance of the farms. We are seeking candidates who are passionate about environmental justice and lovers of growing food, who want to share their knowledge with others. This position offers a meaningful gardening and teaching opportunity for the right candidate.



**Responsibilities:**

- Learn and administer Sprout By Design's provided curriculum
- Plan and facilitate multiple workshops per day, multiple days per week (TBD)
- Organize and create new teaching tools and materials (you will have the opportunity to design your own lessons and projects outside of the provided curriculum)
- Prepare for garden activities ensuring you have everything needed for the class in advance
- Setup and cleanup workshop materials
- Cultivate and maintain urban farms, including soil, aquaponic, and hydroponic farms, composting, and chicken coops
- Organic crop handling: seed sowing, transplanting, harvesting
- Organic crop maintenance: soil health, weeding, disease control, overall appearance
- Monitor, document, photograph, and report on all activities pertaining to the urban farm including harvest log, garden activity log, garden plan, garden map, and surveys
- Coordinate community garden events to bring students, families, teachers, and community members together
- Facilitate staff training, professional development, family night events, and special events
- Supervise open garden hours at relevant locations
- Attend meetings with Sprout By Design and client specific meetings and trainings as required
- Coordinate with Sprout By Design, volunteers, and interns

**Qualifications:**

- At least 2 years of garden/farm teaching experience, with a wide range of students and locations preferred
- Knowledge and skills in three or more of the following: (organic) gardening, rooftop gardening, hydroponic gardening, aquaponic growing, chicken keeping, composting, horticulture, botany, environmental science, food systems, food access, sustainability, food justice, public health, and nutrition
- Ability to work with diverse populations including youth and adults, individuals with special needs, gifted youth as well as at-risk youth in secure facilities
- Positive attitude around children, adults, and seniors
- Must be a creative self-starter who takes initiative and thinks outside the box
- Strong oral and written communication skills
- Ability to work independently
- Willing to undergo a background check
- Computer, organizational, and project management skills strongly desired
- Must have a reliable form of transportation to all five boroughs of NYC
- Open availability to work various hours, including evenings & weekends
- Must be authorized to work in the United States

**Compensation:** Salary dependent on experience

**How To Apply:** Please send your resume, cover letter, and two professional recommendations to [info@sproutbydesign.com](mailto:info@sproutbydesign.com).