Volunteer Role Description
Family Learning Volunteer

Purpose of the role:

To engage families with hands-on activities on-board the SS Great Britain at weekends. You could be helping families to learn how to send and decode messages using semaphore flags or encouraging them to find clues in passenger cabins. Our Family Learning Volunteers introduce families to an activity, encourage them to get involved, create a fun, positive learning environment and share stories about Brunel and his amazing ship.

Main activities:

- Set up and lead a selection of simple group activities as part of our Brunel on Board sessions.
- Encourage families & other visitors to take part.
- Supervise replica object handling.
- Help visitors discover more about Isambard Kingdom Brunel and what made him a great engineer.
- Share stories of life aboard IKB’s SS Great Britain
- Support all participants to have a fun, enjoyable experience.
- Record participant numbers and pack away activities at the end of the session.

What the SS Great Britain can offer:

- A fun and engaging role where you can gain experience working with families in the museum and heritage education sector.
- Training in the following areas: Workshop facilitation, group management, informal family learning.
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• The chance to learn the fascinating history of the ship and the work and life of Isambard Kingdom Brunel.
• A social and training program with opportunities and events throughout the year
• Behind the scenes access to the Collection.
• The opportunity to be part of a friendly and supportive team of staff and volunteers.
• A reference when you have been volunteering with us regularly for over six months.

About you:

This role is ideal for people who want to gain experience facilitating learning activities or enjoy working with families and children. Whilst previous experience leading group activities is an advantage it is not required as we will provide you with all the necessary training and information:

We are looking for people who:
• Are friendly, approachable and confident in a busy public environment
• Enjoy working with children and families and who have an interest in education.
• Are enthusiastic about engaging families with history in an interesting and interactive way.
• Comfortable leading small group activities.
• Can volunteer for afternoon session on Saturdays or Sundays, 1-3 times per month. Activity sessions take place at between 12pm and 2pm with some additional time required for set up and packing away.

As a Family Learning Volunteer you will be supervised by Simon Strain, Active Interpretation Manager. Volunteers are an important part of the charity and play a vital role in enhancing the work of the Trust. We are committed to providing volunteering opportunities of a high standard.

Ready to take the next step?

If you would like to join our crew or have any questions please get in touch by completing an enquiry form, available at http://www.ssgreatbritain.org/support-us/volunteer

You can contact our Volunteer Administrator by emailing volunteering@ssgreatbritain.org or telephoning 0117 926 0680. We would love to hear from you.

Potential volunteers will be invited to a recruitment event to discuss the role further and to ensure it is the right fit for you. This will give you the chance to learn more about the volunteer roles and to meet the team. These events take place monthly.