

Alumni Profile



Jessie Dirks '19
Specialization in Environmental
Education and Communication

My Environmental Studies Degree prepared me well for my AmeriCorps service. I just completed my second AmeriCorps term with YMCA Earth Service Corps. I worked with 6-12th graders as a Program Instructor for their school's environmental club. Serving six different schools across the Puget Sound Region meant interfacing with a lot of stakeholders and community partners. I'm transitioning to a new job as an outdoor educator for Seattle Parks and Rec, where I'll be teaching youth outdoor leadership skills.

What I love most about my job is being a mentor to youth and watching their confidence and leadership skills grow! I empower others to make a positive impact in their communities.

I employ the knowledge and experience from my EVST classes and internships to support the diverse projects youth are excited to implement! I also use my education to push youth past the surface level of environmental issues and ask them to assess the social and economic impacts for a just solution.

