

# Berrien Springs Partnership Lab Syllabus and Instructor Qualifications

LABS (CLASSES) ARE PROVIDED AS AN EDUCATIONAL SOURCE FOR PBL (PROJECT BASED LEARNING)

## COMMUNITY CLASS TITLE: Animal Art Exploration

GRADE OR AGE LEVELS: K-12

FORMAT: IN-PERSON Virtual

DAY AND TIME OF THE WEEK: Mondays 9-9:50am or Tuesdays 6-6:50pm (Week of Sept 12-Dec 9 with week of Thanksgiving off)

TOTAL REQUIRED HRS: 19 ADD'L POSSIBLE HRS (OPTIONAL TIME):

TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS POSSIBLE: 23

LOCATION (address): Zoom

- add directions here if necessary

## PRIMARY INSTRUCTOR:

- list additional instructors that will be background checked:

Niki McNeil

CONTACT INFORMATION: phone: 269-876-6518

email: [nikimcneil@comcast.net](mailto:nikimcneil@comcast.net)

website: [www.StudioCIAclasses.com](http://www.StudioCIAclasses.com)

ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION AT SITE REQUIRED? YES NO

IF YES, INSTRUCTIONS FOR REGISTRATION: After enrolling please email [nikimcneil@comcast.net](mailto:nikimcneil@comcast.net) and clarify if you'd like the Mon morning or Tues evening option for this class

## INSTRUCTOR QUALIFICATIONS (may attach a separate page if necessary):

Niki brings art classes to life in a way that captivates and engages students. Her classes are more than just lessons; they're interactive adventures where imagination knows no bounds. Explore the vast landscape of artistic expression with Niki, where every stroke and stitch is a step towards unlocking your creative potential.

## COURSE DESCRIPTION (OVERVIEW):

Join us each week as we explore fascinating facts about our featured animal and engage in a creative drawing project of said animal. This class is a blend of animal trivia and hands-on art, promising a lot of enjoyment!

Our aim is to provide a nurturing environment where kids can express themselves freely, make lifelong connections, and, of course, create beautiful art. I hope students will connect with each other through their artistic endeavors, celebrating uniqueness and the joy of being different.

If you have a child who feels they "can't draw," this class is perfect for them. Over the past 12 years, I've worked with many students who initially doubted their artistic abilities but ended up passionately continuing in my classes for several years. My approach allows students to express themselves authentically without rigid guidelines; the goal is for each student's work to be uniquely their own.

Through this class, students will discover that improvement in art, as in any skill, comes from practice and breaking down complex drawings into manageable shapes. After just a few weeks, parents often notice a significant boost in their child's confidence.

## SYLLABUS/OUTLINE: WEEKLY BREAKDOWN OF PROJECT-BASED LEARNING LAB ACTIVITIES

*Describe activities that will reinforce the lesson. Include any work and time to be required outside of class:*

*Week 1: Hippo*

*In Class: Mountain Goats*

*Week 2: Cow*

*In Class: Seahorse*

*Week 3: Aardvark*

*In Class: Axolotl*

*Week 4: Highland Cow*

*In Class: Dogs (Frenchie)*

*Week 5: Hummingbird*

*In Class: Hedgehog*

*Week 6: Jerboa*

*In Class: Lion*

*Week 7: Mice*

*In Class: Russian Desman*

*Week 8: Skunk*

*In Class: Wolf*

*Week 9: Panda Bears*

*In Class: Dachshund*

*Week 10: Toucan*

*In Class: Bat*

*Week 11: Squirrel*

*In Class: Moth*

*Week 12: Snail*

*In Class: Pelican*

## COURSE OBJECTIVES AND APPROXIMATE TARGET DATES:

*Steps to check for student understanding, along with dates or # of weeks into class:*

In our live weekly meetings students will share their finished art and any bonus art they finished up that week. There is 1 bonus video drawing every week along with the live class, the bonus video helps ensure the student is able to follow the step by steps without an instructor right there, which builds their confidence.

**STUDENT ASSESSMENT - what will be used to evaluate student progress and/or end of semester pass/fail status?**

- 1) Student agrees to attend at least 80% of class sessions/lessons offered. Attendance is kept online and tracked by Partnership staff. Failure to meet 80% or be on track to meet 80% may result in program discontinuation.
- 2) The Partnership Student Assessment or Performance Form is filled out by the teacher and turned in to Partnership staff. The link to this form is found on the web page for this class. Failing marks for lack of participation, behavior issues, practice time, etc. may result in program discontinuation.

**Class-specific assessment:** discuss and include the form or a link to the form that you use.

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES: (online, books, video, etc.):

N/A

### CLASS POLICIES: ATTENDANCE, BEHAVIOR, WEATHER, ETC.

**Attendance:** Do your best to be in class every week, please let me know if you won't be attending any given class. Students are able to work the whole course via videos with prior arrangements or due to extended illness/travel.

**Weather:** If either the district the class is held in or Coloma (the district I'd be traveling from) is closed, we will not have class. If your district is closed or you are concerned about being out and class is still on please stay home, you are not penalized for lack of attendance during weather situations. If you are unsure which district your class is held in, please reach out and ask.

**Other:** I expect students to be kind and respectful of other students and their own and other students' work. Please find something nice to say or say nothing at all.