

## Berrien Springs Partnership Syllabus – Fall 2023

### **CLASS TITLE: GVNCP - Backyard Art Zoom**

**GRADE OR AGE LEVELS:** ages 5 and up

**START DATE:** Sept 21, 2023    **END DATE:** Nov 9, 2023  
**# WEEKS TOTAL:** 8 weeks    **DAY/TIME:** 3 to 5 PM (2 hours per day)  
**DAY OF WEEK:** Thursday, the class is 8 Thursdays in a row  
**# HOURS (REQUIRED):** 16 hours total (16 total lessons)

**LOCATION/ADDRESS: DIRECTIONS TO LOCATION:**  
At your home on Zoom software

**MAIN INSTRUCTOR:** Zoe Elrick

#### **INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION:**

**Phone:** 269-612-8172

**Email:** [galienvalley@gmail.com](mailto:galienvalley@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.z-hub.org/galienvalleyncp.html](http://www.z-hub.org/galienvalleyncp.html)

Please email the instructor to let her know that you signed up for her class.

#### **INSTRUCTOR QUALIFICATIONS: Zoe Elrick**

Zoe Elrick is an award-winning artist with a background in education, culture, science, art, history, as well as landscape architecture and ecology. In 2011, she started the Galien Valley Nature and Culture Program (GV-NCP), in Three Oaks, Michigan. Also, she is a registered landscape architect in Michigan and has worked for Pizzo and Associates, an ecological restoration firm of prairies, woodlands, and wetlands. Her landscape architecture degree is from University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Plus, she has taken nature classes in New Jersey at the Tracker School of nature awareness, wilderness living, and wilderness survival.

#### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES: (websites):**

[www.z-hub.org/galienvalleyncp.html](http://www.z-hub.org/galienvalleyncp.html)

[www.z-hub.org/nature.html](http://www.z-hub.org/nature.html)

[www.z-hub.org/culture.html](http://www.z-hub.org/culture.html)

<https://www.facebook.com/GalienValleyNCP/>

## COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Class is mostly indoors, but students will visit their outdoor backyard too.

This class is both informative and fun! Explore your own backyard. Draw nature and things in your backyard. Start or expand your Art Journal. Drawing the things of nature helps people to learn about nature. This is a drawing class, a nature class, and a show-n-tell class. On Zoom, talk with classmates about your art, nature journal, and nature in your backyard. In September to November, students will make art related to the fall season. In class, we'll draw things such as sticks, leaves, autumn scenes, tracks, animals, the backyard landscape, backyard map, etc. Each day of class, there will be a few different drawing activities, indoors, as well as one or two nature-exploration activities, outdoors, in your backyard. There will be a lot of free-hand sketching, as well as some tracing too.

Recommended: during class, at least for the first few days of class, parents should assist students with Zoom and the class, for students who are under age 12.

## COURSE MATERIALS:

Teacher provides web page with sheets for student to print out at home.

**(Required) Required to bring to class (provided by student/family):**

1. Smart phone, iPad, and or computer (laptop or desktop) with Zoom software. Computer is ideal.
2. Dress for indoors, and have outdoor apparel handy, class is mostly indoors, with visits to the outdoors in the backyard.
3. Digital camera or smart phone to take outdoor photos. Be able to email about 4 photos to instructor, each week. Photos are not necessarily taken every day of class, but it's good to be prepared.
4. Printer to print out sheets of art projects.  
Every week, print about 4 new sheets, before the class period starts on Thursday.
5. clipboard
6. 3-ring binder for art journal / nature journal and a hole puncher
7. lined paper 8.5 x 11"
8. unlined paper 8.5 x 11" (printer paper)
9. tracing paper 8.5 x 11" (25 sheets)
10. pencils,
11. colored pencils
12. colored pens
13. markers
14. optional: an assortment of soft and hard artist pencils (e.g. 2H, 2B, 4B) - just a 4 pencil set or a set with more pencils. Or just the 2B pencil. Optional: especially the 2B pencil can be used in class.

## SYLLABUS/OUTLINE: WEEKLY BREAKDOWN OF PROJECT-BASED LEARNING ACTIVITY, 2 lessons per week (within 2 hours)

Week 1 – Sept 21 –	Intro, and Fall Sketches
Week 2 – Sept 28 –	Big and Little Landscapes
Week 3 – Oct 5 –	Elevation and Plans, and Map Your Yard
Week 4 – Oct 12 –	Michigan Animals, and Native and Exotic
Week 5 – Oct 19 –	Michigan Trees, and Leaves
Week 6 – Oct 26 –	Sticks are Fun, and Yard Design
Week 7 – Nov 2 –	Fall Color, and Falling Leaves
Week 8 – Nov 10 –	Review, and Organize Art Journal

## COURSE OBJECTIVES AND APPROXIMATE TARGET DATES:

**Each day of class, a student will draw / sketch and write in his Nature Journal / Art Journal.**

## STUDENT ASSESSMENT - what will be used to evaluate student progress and/or end of semester pass/fail status? All classes abide by the following:

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.

**Student Assessment: Students to:** 1. Be prepared / bring materials. 2. Listen to teacher. 3. Ask questions, if don't understand. 4. Be on time to class. 5. Do class activities. 6. Do activities to the best of ability of age. 7. Respects classmates. 8. Be open to suggestions. 9. Stay on task of class activities. 10. Brings required materials (see list below).

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

**Attendance:** Students need to attend 80% of class hours.

**Behavior:** Students are expected to be on time, bring required materials (see list below), listen to teacher, follow directions, participate in class activities, and respect classmates.

**Weather:** Class will be run, no matter the weather.

**(Bring) Bring Required Materials:**

**See above, Course Materials.**