

Berrien Springs Partnership Syllabus and Instructor Qualifications

CLASS TITLE: Art and Culture in America

GRADE OR AGE LEVELS: ages 6 through 12

START DATE: September 7th **END DATE:** January 18th

WEEKS TOTAL: 17 Per semester **WEEKS OFF:** 3

DAY/TIME REQUIRED: Tuesdays 12-2pm **ADD'L DAYS/WK AVAILABLE:**

HOURS (REQUIRED): 34 **# HOURS (OPTIONAL):** 34 (approx.)

TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS POSSIBLE: 68

SECOND SEMESTER COURSE?: Yes, different content but students should contact the instructor to let them know if they're not planning to continue or would like to join mid-year

LOCATION/ADDRESS: S.T.E.A.M. Room MakerSpace 2601 N. 5th st. Niles

MAIN INSTRUCTOR: Dawn Frasier

ADDITIONAL PRIMARY INSTRUCTORS (background checked): Michael Kirby

CONTACT INFORMATION: **phone:** (269) 262-0697 **email:**
dawnandmike007@yahoo.com **website:** FunLearningCompany.com

ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION AT SITE REQUIRED? NO

MAIN INSTRUCTOR QUALIFICATIONS: I was a homeschool mom - all grown-ups now. As a volunteer in those days, I led American Girls and Geography Clubs, taught Shakespeare, Research Writing, Tolkien, U.S. Constitution, Poetry and other classes, and edited several college applications and personal essays for homeschoolers. As a college instructor, I taught Ethics, Composition, Literature, Constitution & Society, and other courses. I have worn a couple of other hats professionally, including high school pastor and newspaper reporter in CA and here in Michigan. I'm also pretty 'crafty' in a number of areas and love to share these interests with kids.

COURSE DESCRIPTION (complete overview shown on website): This year we will cover 6-8

American Girl dolls, roughly chronologically (some skipping around for holidays); each doll

will be covered for 4-6 weeks. First, class members will be introduced to a doll and we will

talk a bit about the era. After the introduction of a doll, we discuss and participate in activities related to chapters assigned as weekly reading for the remaining weeks. The class has a full library of the American girl books available. The pattern will continue for each succeeding doll. Academic and fun projects appropriate to each era (a game, a dance, or a creative project) will be directly related to the weekly reading. Examples of projects include: physical activities (like Pow wow dancing for Kaya or Victorian era games such as Tops), period songs or art and needle activities (like Victorian decoupage and Native American basket making).

Note: instructor may request some parent involvement/assistance, depending on the child.

SYLLABUS/OUTLINE: weekly breakdown of Project-Based Learning activities

<p>Unit 1: (Note: dolls may vary some based on student preference and past participation)</p> <p>Kaya - basket weaving, beading, pow wow dancing, landscape, build Native American Village</p>
<p>Unit 2</p> <p>Caroline- embroidery, clay sculpting,</p>
<p>Unit 3</p> <p>Addy- hand sewing, primitive arts-doll making, slave era songs, quilt design projects</p>
<p>Unit 4</p> <p>Samantha- victorian decoupage, bracelet making, victorian era songs,</p>
<p>Unit 5</p> <p>Rebecca - Victorian toys, hora dancing, Skits</p>
<p>Unit 6</p> <p>Kit-patchwork, quilting, machine sewing</p>

Unit 7
Melody-singing, 60s art
Unit 8
Julie- tie dye, 70s bead work

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND APPROXIMATE TARGET DATES:

Students will gain an understanding of the range of american arts and needarts and how they progressed over time. They will also learn of the contributions of ethnic groups to american culture and develop skills that will grow into hobbies they can use throughout their lives. Each Student will create and keep a Scrapbook including project photos, map work, songs, and artwork that displays their learning.

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. 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:

Our instructor will evaluate each student using Berrien's evaluation form and passing criteria will be based solely on students attending and actively participating in the class sessions.

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

We provide a library of American Girl books for our students to check out. Many of them are also currently available online, here:

<https://www.americangirl.com/explore/articles/onlinelibrary>

Additionally, our instructor will provide homework and supplemental ideas related to the content throughout the course, based on the student's interest.

CLASS POLICIES: ATTENDANCE, BEHAVIOR, WEATHER, ETC.

Attendance: attendance is required and students should notify the instructor in advance of any absence.

Behavior: any behavior issues will first be privately brought to the attention of the parent and, should the behavior persist, to the partnership staff.

Weather: the classes will be cancelled on any days when Berrien Springs Public Schools are closed. We will also contact families to remind them of this in the event of a weather-related cancellation. We will make up any canceled class meetings at a later date.