**Semester(s) offered:   Fall\_X\_     Spring 2018\_\_**

**Berrien Springs Parent Partnership**

**Independent Study/Project Based Learning Course Description and Syllabus**

**Love Creek Outdoor Explorers**

**Course Title: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Ages/Grade Levels: \_\_\_\_5-10 years old\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Class size: Min:\_\_5\_ Max:\_\_16\_**

**Location Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Love Creek County Park and Nature. Center\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Location Address: \_\_\_\_9292 Huckleberry Rd Berrien Center MI 49102 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Provide directions to location if necessary:**

**Start Date: \_\_September 7, 2018\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_   
End Date: \_January 18, 2019\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (Must be at least 16 hours of instructional time)

**Day of the Week: Circle: M Tu W Th F To be arranged with students**

**Begin and end time of class: \_1:30-3:30 (times vary with subject and weather. \_There will be one evening night hike at 6:30 pm.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Contact/Instructors: \_\_\_\_\_Patrick Underwood Parks Naturalist \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Email: lovecreek@berriencounty.org\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Best phone #:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_269-471-2617\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Publish # on website ? Y N**

**Does the student also need to register with you or at your location? Y N just check in each class**

**Classes will be (circle one): Graded Pass/Fail What is the criteria for passing the class? Please list or attach your studio policy or class policy/expectations and grading rubric.**

**Showing up to class and completing a class journal.**

**Briefly describe the course, including topics to be covered and subject areas that the course will cover –this is what will be posted on our website:**

**A weekly reminder email is sent out each week usually on the Wednesday before class that provides location, items to bring etc.**

**During this twice a month class for 5-10 year olds, we will explore the outdoor world of Berrien County. Each class will have a topic that is usually based on what is “happening” outside that particular month. This class is presented as a supplement to your science studies at home, and will be as “hands-on” as possible. Classes will be on Fridays and will meet at Love Creek or other parks in the County.**

**A Nature Journal will be handed out at the first class for the students to take home and bring to each class. It is expected that each student will write or draw their observations, thoughts etc. at home after each class. After the final class the journals will be displayed for students and their parents to explore each other’s work.**

**Weekly breakdown of instruction: (write on separate sheet if necessary)**

**(All dates and subjects are subject to change based on staffing and weather)**

**September 7---Nature of the Beach (Weko Beach in Bridgman)**

**September 21---Backyard Bugs!**

**October 12---“Naturalist’s Choice”**

**October 26---Night Hike Adventure---6:30 p.m.**

**November 9---Meet the Decomposers**

**November 16---Winter Bird Adaptations**

**December 7---Exploring Owls and Owl Pellets**

**December 21---Animal Tracks and Signs**

**January 4 2019---Snowshoeing/Winter Hike (Topic depends on snow conditions)**

**January 18 2019---Topic depends on snow conditions**

**All classes must have a min. of 4 Course Objective Checkpoints unique to your class.** You will note on the attendance sheet when students have met these objectives. Write in #’s 2 and 3 here and on the attendance sheet:  
 **1st: pre-test**

**2nd. : Appreciation of plants and animals and how they relate to each other. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**3rd: \_ObservationSkills.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**4th: post-test**

**Final project/performance:** The student is to select, as appropriate a final project that will demonstrate what they have learned over the course of the semester and aligns with their learning goal. The student should have input into what they present as their final project. This can be in the form of a presentation, art fair, performance, recital, art gallery, written report, final exam, musical composition, product such as woodworking, jewelry, food harvest or presentation, video, graphic or other visual artwork. Completion of the final project should figure in as part of the pass or fail grade that you determine based on your rubric.

**Write in the name of the project and completion date on the attendance sheet.**

**List any materials that students are required to bring to class:**

**List any required or optional online resources you will use in class or students can use to supplement:**

**Attach or list** one 10 question (multiple choice, T/F, or open ended) pre/post-test to be given the first and last week of class that will assess knowledge of subject(s) covered in class during the semester OR how you plan to assess the student’s knowledge of the topic in a subjective manner. Scores must be recorded on the attendance form provided.

**Cost per student for entire semester, including materials and supplies: $100.00\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Invoices are due 10/31 for Fall and 2/28 for Spring.**

Thank you for providing your expertise to the students in our community!