

# Berrien Springs Partnership Syllabus and Instructor Qualifications

**CLASS TITLE:** Intermediate Crochet

**GRADE OR AGE LEVELS:** 2nd-12th

**START DATE:** Week of Aug 31st 2020

**END DATE:** Week of Dec 14th 2020

**# WEEKS TOTAL:** 16    **WEEKS OFF:** 2, No class week of Sept 7th or Nov 23rd

**DAY/TIME REQUIRED:** 1.5 hrs per week

Mondays in Stevensville 2-4:30 or 6-7:30 or Wednesdays in South Haven from 10:30-Noon or in Coloma from 2-3:30

**ADD'L DAYS/WK AVAILABLE:** Make up hours available Mon 2:30-4 or 6-7:30 or Wed 10:30-Noon

**# HOURS (REQUIRED):** 1.5 per week

**# HOURS (POSSIBLE):** 3 per week

**TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS POSSIBLE:** 42 hours

**LOCATION/ADDRESS: DIRECTIONS TO LOCATION (if needed):** Stevensville Martins (upstairs Deli area), South Haven First Baptist Church (Class room 1), Coloma Library (kids area)

**MAIN INSTRUCTOR:** Niki McNeil

**ADDITIONAL PRIMARY INSTRUCTORS (background checked):** NA

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** phone:269-876-6518    email:nikimcneil@comcast.net  
**website:**

**ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION AT SITE REQUIRED?** YES- Contact to choose your location/time

**IF YES, INSTRUCTIONS FOR REGISTRATION:** visit our website and click on parent portal

## MAIN INSTRUCTOR QUALIFICATIONS:

I'm a mom of three with a background in education. I have been teaching for the partnership for 5 years now in the life skills and art categories and love seeing kids catch the thrill that art and crochet can bring. I have always had a heart for helping others find joy, be it in the form of a handmade gift or creating their very own masterpiece. I am an avid learner, always trying new things. Combine that with a touch of OCD and, well, you've got a Jane of all trades; mostly crafting trades, but I have a few fun ones up my sleeve too - such as boutique merchandise buyer, professional shopper and curriculum creator. You will always find me creating something, my hands must stay busy and my to-create-soon list is never ending.

You can follow my teaching journey and see samples of the students projects here:

<https://www.facebook.com/Niki-McNeil-Art-Crochet>

## COURSE DESCRIPTION (complete overview shown on website):

We will be focusing on furthering your talent as a crochet artist. This class is project based, with each project advancing your skills in crochet. Each student will then be turned loose to work on the project at their own pace, some students will complete 4+ projects per semester while others may only finish one. I will help students master reading patterns, understanding graphs and adapting patterns based on what they'd like to create. This class will be learn-at-your-own pace so that each student can excel at their natural ability without becoming frustrated. No at home time is required though for intermediate students I do request they spend time each week working on their project. We will be doing unique projects so students are encouraged to repeat the class and gain mastery of new skills.

Intermediate students will have unique projects, different from the beginner students but I hold all levels together as I have found the students really encourage each other. Students who struggled to learn 2 semesters ago show the new students that it can be mastered and just how far you can come in a year with practice. The beginner students struggling show remind the intermediate students of a major accomplishment they have made. It's a win/win for all involved. Your student is ready for the intermediate level as soon as they are confident in the basic single crochet stitch and completing 2+ projects a semester in the beginner level courses.

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

**Each semester our projects will vary but the skills you will learn will build on each other. We will start by reviewing the basic single crochet stitch, and the best way to hold the yarn and the hook as well as discuss the differences in yarns and hooks. Intermediate crochet projects are larger in scale/difficulty and therefore take longer than the beginner projects, but because students are quicker and more likely to work at home they still finish the same number of projects on average.**

**In this class we really focus on learning to read patterns by a variety of designers, introducing students to the vast variety found in crochet language. Each designer words**

things slightly different and helping the student infer their meaning is a big skill to master in this class. Students who take the class for multiple semesters have actually began writing their own patterns with my help.

Project one is typically a 4 week project, depending on the new stitches learned and any new techniques. Techniques we'll explore through projects included; join as you go methods, proper securing of limbs, cluster stitches, double and triple crochets, specialty shell stitches, puff stitches, changing colors as well as any basics needing review.

We will then work on sewing all the pieces of your project together learning different stitches depending on the projects' needs.

Project 2-4 will all follow the same steps at a more accelerated pace. Projects will also progressively get more difficult either in new stitches to learn, new techniques to master, or more pieces to create. No 2 projects are ever the same.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES AND APPROXIMATE TARGET DATES:**

*Week 1-2: Reviewing the single crochet stitch and stitch increases, as well as starting your project.*

*Week 3-4: Reading your pattern, completing your first project*

*Week 5-6: Start project 2 when first one is complete, learn any new stitches in that pattern*

*Week 7: Understand new stitches and complete them without verbal instruction.*

*Week 8: Practice and perfect your stitches, they should look consistent (no big gaps)*

*Weeks 9-14: Advance to more projects learning additional stitches and reinforcing the concepts learned the first 9 weeks.*

### **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:** Project Completion

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

See previously sent

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

**Attendance:** Please let me know if your student will not be attending due to illness or vacation.

**Behavior:** If your student is disrespectful in class or distractive I will ask they be picked up early.

**Weather:** I follow the local district for closures. If the district the class is held in closes or Coloma Schools Close (my home district) we will not have class. If you do not feel safe going out, then please stay home and just let me know.

**Other:**