

# Berrien Springs Partnership Lab Syllabus and Instructor Qualifications

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

## COMMUNITY CLASS TITLE: Poetry Fun for Elementary

**Students GRADE OR AGE LEVELS:** Grades 3-6

**FORMAT:** IN-PERSON ONLINE FLEXIBLE

**DAY AND TIME OF THE WEEK:** Tuesday, 1:00-2:00pm

**TOTAL REQUIRED HRS:** 16

**ADD'L POSSIBLE HRS (OPTIONAL TIME):** 0

**TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS POSSIBLE:** 16

**LOCATION:** Neighbor to Neighbor Meeting Room, 9147 US Highway 31, Berrien Springs

**INSTRUCTOR:** Diane Helbley

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** phone: 269-240-3959 email: [diane.helbley@gmail.com](mailto:diane.helbley@gmail.com)  
website:

ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION AT SITE REQUIRED? YES NO

IF YES, INSTRUCTIONS FOR REGISTRATION:

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

Diane Helbley has filled her life with various art forms since she was a small child. These include drawing, flute-playing, dancing, acting, singing, and poetry writing. The latter has included songwriting, writing poems about the world around her, taking a poetry workshop series through Just Buffalo Literary Center (Buffalo, NY), and teaching poetry to her daughter during COVID homeschooling.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION (OVERVIEW):** Are you a fan of Dr. Seuss books, greeting card sayings, commercial jingles, or song lyrics? Then you're a fan of poetry! Poetry isn't just an old, dusty way of writing. It's an interesting, creative way to get ideas across, even today. It helps us to memorize things, and it helps us to use our imaginations to describe something.

In this class, we will explore, write, recite, and perhaps even illustrate classic and modern poetic forms. We will learn about the poetic tools used to create interesting poems. Students will have opportunities to share their poems with each other in class, and a poetry reading with each student's best/favorite poem(s) will end our time together.

Each student will need a notebook or journal in which to write their poems. They should choose one that is at least 5"x7" and no larger than 9"x12". It can be lined, bulleted, or blank. (For younger children, lines will likely be helpful.)

**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:* **Classes:**

1. **8/24:** Intro, Current Knowledge Quiz, Expectations (write a poem for each style, learn to recite poetry, illustrating poems, poetry reading), Project Ideas
2. **8/31:** Poetry Terminology w/ examples
3. **9/7:** Acrostic
4. **9/14:** Haiku
5. **9/21:** Sonnet
6. **9/28:** Found
7. **10/5:** (Kosher!) Limerick
8. **10/12:** Palindrome
9. **10/19:** Ode
10. **10/26:** Anagrammatic
11. **11/2:** Ekphrastic
12. **11/9:** Concrete
13. **11/16:** Blackout
14. **11/30:** Abstract/Sound
15. **12/7:** Current Knowledge Quiz, Choose Poems for Poetry Reading, Requirements for Reading
16. **12/14:** Poetry Reading

Each poetic form class (classes 3-14) will include voluntary student sharing of the previous class's poetic form that they authored, a teaching of the current class's form, creating as a class a poem (or part of a poem) based on that form, and then time for the students to work on their own poems. Any unfinished poems can be completed at home before the next class.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES AND APPROXIMATE TARGET

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

- By the mid-point of this class, the student will be familiar with poetry terminology and be able to use it in analyzing poems.
- By the end of this class, the student will know multiple poetic forms and be able to write poems within those forms.
- By the end of this class, the student will be able to recite poetry aloud with proper meter and rhythm and will demonstrate this with the end-of-class Poetry Reading.

## 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.

- Each student will take a Current Knowledge Quiz at the beginning of class and then again at the end to gauge learning.
- Each student's notebook/journal will be reviewed at the end of the class for completeness.
- Each student will share at least one poem in the end-of-class Poetry Reading with parents/guardians in attendance.

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

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

**Attendance:** 80% of the scheduled classes. Students can make up any missed classwork by emailing the teacher and getting the notes for that class.

**Weather:** If the Berrien Springs Public Schools are closed due to inclement weather, this class will be cancelled as well.

**Other:**