

## Fall 2025 Loonling Learning , Partnership Classes.

### **Natural Acts, Environmental studies and hiking.**

Instructors: Colleen & Tom Hurst

Location: Various areas within 20 miles of Berrien Springs. Ages: 6 and up, must be good walkers. Typically this is a class that a parent joins.

Minimum 10, Maximum 16 students. Can adjust to accommodate families.

Time, Dates: Sunday afternoon 1:00 - 5:00PM.

Sept. 14, 21, 28, Oct.5, 12, Make up date Oct.19. Class will be canceled in case of poor weather and moved to make up date.

Description: This is a class where families are introduced to local natural areas. We will meet at a different spot each time. Hikes will be less than 4 miles and will include nature, forestry, geology and history instruction. A snack break will be included. This is designed as a family participation activity where a parent joins the hike. We will introduce hiking equipment, trail food and wilderness safety.

Younger children in carriers are OK. Sorry no strollers. All participating students over 6 years need to be registered for the class. Solid outdoor shoes are a must. We will send out specifics prior to the start of class. Emails will be sent out prior to each hike with instructions for location, parking, activities. We do need to be a bit weather flexible. Classes will not be held outside in dangerous conditions.

Our area is rich with many large parks and publicly accessible natural areas. From original forests to sand dunes and river walks. Berrien county is diverse. Past hikes have included. Love Creek, Ross Preserve, Warren Woods, Grande Meer, river valleys, orchards, lake shores, and farm activities. Colleen & Tom have been exploring the outdoors and guiding trips for schools, families, youth groups and conservation organizations for over 30 years. Allow us to share with you some of our local favorites. Detailed directions will be shared by email prior to each class.