



“Let the children free; encourage them; let them run outside when it is raining; let them remove their shoes when they find a puddle of water; and, when the grass of the meadows is wet with dew, let them run on it and trample it with their bare feet; let them rest peacefully when a tree invites them to sleep beneath its shade; let them shout and laugh when the sun wakes them in the morning.”

-Maria Montessori

“Children more than ever need opportunities to be in their bodies in the world – jumping rope, bicycling, stream hopping and fort building. It is this engagement between the limbs of the body and the bones of the earth where true balance and centeredness emerge.” -David Sobel

“Children cannot ‘bounce off the walls’ if you take away the walls.”-Erin Kenny



4700 Coe Lane, Franklin, TN 37067

www.stoneycreek.farm



Stoney Creek Farm

“Nature Explorers” Nature Preschool & Homeschool Enrichment

Director of Nature Preschool: Holly Kinslow

Children’s Program Director, Stoney Creek Farm: Cori Williams

What is the Stoney Creek Nature Explorers Program?

Stoney Creek Nature Explorers is an all-outdoor nature immersed, curiosity driven, child centered, emergent program. Stoney Creek Farm is a homestead on a 15-acre property. The property has a wide variety of wooded areas, farm animals, a greenhouse, a creek, a bridge, and a large, covered area with child sized tables and child safe heaters for inclement and cold weather.

It is our belief and research has proven, children thrive in all areas of development when given the opportunity to explore freely in nature under guidance and supervision. The skills, social engagement, love of learning, and confidence they gain during these crucial brain building years, will serve them well for a lifetime. When children are exposed to nature so early, they appreciate and learn to take care of the land and its intricate systems.

Nature immersion curriculum bathes all senses of children. The whole child is being exposed to a wide variety of learning possibilities that are unique to each child. These skills and mental well-being boosters are hard wired into the brain at this crucial time and will set the foundation for them to be well adjusted, lifelong learners.

At Stoney Creek Nature Explorers, we will:

- 🍃 **Explore** – wooded areas, meadows, and creek
- 🍃 **Identify Native Wildlife** – including mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and insects
- 🍃 **Identify Trees** – characteristics and benefits
- 🍃 **Identify Plants** –common versus rare (example: dandelion versus trillium flowers) and beneficial versus harmful (example: mint versus poison ivy)
- 🍃 **Forage** – learn about wild edibles
- 🍃 **Birdwatch** – Using our bird blind we will study bird behaviors and identify bird songs
- 🍃 **Record Discoveries** – in our nature notebooks through drawings and writing
- 🍃 **Body/Space Awareness** – climb trees, make risk assessments, and jump rocks
- 🍃 **Garden** – children will create and maintain a garden
- 🍃 **Create Art** – using natural materials
- 🍃 Build forts, swing in hammocks, and bake bread in an outdoor oven (fire safety)
- 🍃 **Make Farm Friends** – Get to know our chickens and goats; collect eggs and use goat milk to make soap

... and SO MUCH MORE!



Nature Explorers Program Details

WHO:

Program will serve children ages 3-5 (must be potty trained) with 12-15 children limit capacity. Ratio is two teachers to 12-15 children. A Homeschooling Enrichment Day is available on Fridays for children K-5th grade, also 12-15 children limit.



WHEN:

Hours of Operation:

T, W, Th 9am-1pm Preschool
Friday 9am-1pm Homeschool Enrichment

The calendar will follow the Williamson County School calendar for major holidays and inclement weather closings.

LICENSING EXEMPTION:

The State of Tennessee allows for a Child Care Licensing Exemption and the Stoney Creek Nature Explorers Program has been granted this exemption.

COST:

3 day/wk (12-15 slots available) \$600/month
Homeschool Friday (12-15 slots available) \$260/month

*A registration/supply fee of \$200 will be paid at the beginning of the year when registration forms are turned in. A 5% discount will be offered on tuition for those families with multiple children.

*Payments will be made on the first of the month. A late fee of \$35 will be added, if not paid by the 5th of the month.

SUPPLIES:

Annual supply cost is covered in the \$200 Registration Fee.

Payment Schedule 2022 – 2023

	Preschool	Homeschool Enrichment
August	\$450	\$195
September – April	\$600	\$260
May	\$300	\$130

Payments are due on the 1st of every month. If not received by the 5th a \$35 late charge will be added.





**Stoney Creek Farm Nature Explorers
and Homeschool Enrichment**

August 9 First Day of Nature Explorers (preschool)

August 12 First Day Homeschool Enrichment

October 11-14 Fall Break

November 21-25 Thanksgiving Holiday

Dec. 20-Jan. 2 Christmas Break

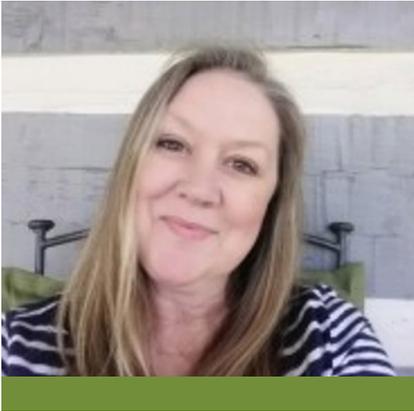
March 13-17 Spring Break

April 7 Homeschool closed for Good Friday

May 12 Last Day of the year



Nature Explorers – Meet the Team!



**HOLLY KINSLOW
PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR**

Holly Kinslow has 30 years’ experience in Early Childhood Education. With a degree in ECE from University of North Alabama, she opened her own preschool in her home. Over the years, she has directed children care programs, worked for the State as a Resource Specialist, conducted over 300 trainings for childcare providers on development and best practices. She became Coordinator of Child Care Resources for South Central TN for 4 years, before going back into the classroom in 2015. She has two children, Easton, 28 is married to Keisha. Charlie, is 25 and married to Thomas. She lives in a cabin in the hills and loves her plants and front porch. She firmly believes God placed within all of us a desire to connect with Nature, the world where He created for us to play, discovering all the amazing wonders He has for us to find.



Cori Williams is a lifelong learner who enjoys sharing her LOVE of God, Nature, and Sustainable Living with everyone she meets! You can often find her exploring in the woods, hiking in the mountains, or getting her hands dirty in the garden. As a certified preschool teacher, she most recently served as the Assistant Director of the First Presbyterian Preschool Program in Franklin, TN. Cori studied Early Childhood Special Education at Vanderbilt University, and Early Childhood Development at Nashville State. During her time at Vanderbilt, she received the prestigious Peabody Innovation Award for developing a program to help poor inner-city families. She worked for the KidTalk Project serving area HeadStart centers as a behavior and language interventionist. Other careers have included Graphic Artist at a local financial institution for over 10 years, and manager of a local animal shelter. Cori is a certified Tennessee Naturalist and currently serves on the board of the Tennessee Naturalist Program. She and her 11-year-old son are native Nashvillians and are constantly seeking new opportunities and adventures!



**CORI WILLIAMS
SCF CHILDREN’S PROGRAM
DIRECTOR**





Stoney Creek Farm Owners

Leigh and Olin Funderburk

Bio

Leigh graduated in 1982 from Middle Tennessee University with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Business Administration. After graduation, Leigh three successful careers serving in management, merchandising, marketing and sales. The last 17 years (in the corporate world) were spent with the Xerox Corporation as a Product Specialist for Color and Monochrome Production Printing where she covered multiple states and was responsible for over \$4M in sales annually.

Olin earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Building Construction, Engineering & Technology from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1982. He has worked for over 30 years in all facets of the construction and residential development industry, and until recently was the Vice President of Enfield Construction. Olin was responsible for Project Management, Estimation, Scheduling, Subcontracts, Material Purchase, and Codes/Compliance for all Enfield properties, contract properties and outside bids.

Yearning for a simple, more sustainable lifestyle, Leigh and her husband, Olin, founded Stoney Creek Farm in 2005 and opened to the public in 2010 with a Summer U-Pick Garden, garden rental plots, and educational seminars. Having worked for over 30 years in the corporate world, Leigh retired in February of 2013 to expand their sustainable farm and better serve the community. In October 2017, Olin sold his partnership in Enfield Construction to continue the expansion of the farm and Dirt Rich Education.

The Funderburk' farm won the 2014 TSU Small Farmer of the Year Award in the category of Innovative Marketing. Leigh continues to pursue the farm mission of "teaching people how to grow their own healthy food", as well as educating the public on sustainable living practices via the Stoney Creek Farm website and social media. Stoney Creek Farm has been featured in the Tennessean Newspaper, Williamson Herald, Brentwood Home Page and other local newsprint. Leigh and Olin have also been guests on television shows and news segments such as Volunteer Gardener, Live Green Tennessee, the Christian Broadcast Network, WZTV Fox17 and WKRN-TV News 2. They have also been featured on Radio talk shows such as WTN's Michael DelGiorno Show and Franklin's WAKM 950.

In 2016, the Funderburk' published a book on sustainable farm living called, "Dirt Rich" and distributed over 3,000 in print and e-book formats to date. Leigh also wrote a children's coloring and activity book called "Dirt Rich Kids" in the 4th Quarter of 2016 with the purpose of teaching kids about sustainable living and how they can make a difference in the world. To learn more about Stoney Creek Farm, the Dirt Rich books and the Funderburk' please click on the links below:

<http://stoneycreek.farm>

<http://facebook.com/stoneycreekfarmtennessee>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oOAUyYskQpU&t=245>

