



Extension Snapshot

<https://columbia.extension.wisc.edu>

Columbia County Extension is following the guidance of the CDC, WDH, the Governor, & the UW-Madison Campus

Our priority is the health of ourselves, our coworkers, our neighbors, and everyone in our communities. We are telecommuting and limiting events to virtual or no-contact in our efforts to protect those around us

Explore 4-H at Home project kits are new for the 2021 4-H year and they address a need for 4-H project education during a pandemic! Created by a collaboration of the Columbia, Dodge and Sauk County 4-H educators, the kits offer a learning opportunity in the project areas identified to 4-H youth and non-4-H youth alike. Youth and their families can register for the 4-H project kit(s) of their choice. There will be 3 kits created for each of the first 6 months in 2021 and they are not "plugged" in. Youth will practice self-directed learning and/or have guidance from a parent or older sibling.



Topics by month of release include: **January** – Cloverbud, Electricity, Kitchen Science; **February** – Child Development, Cloverbud, STEM is Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math; **March** – Aerospace, Cloverbud, Reduce/Reuse/Recycle; **April** – Ag Science, Cloverbud, Home Environment; **May** -- Ag Science 2, Cake Decorating, Cloverbud; **June** – Animal Science, Cloverbud, Sewing and Textiles. Each kit will include the supplies necessary to complete the learning experience for the fee listed on the registration form. Families are being invited to sign up NOW to get their Explore at Home 4-H Project kits for February, 2021 by registering at: <https://forms.gle/3QBssALCSmsj7yxMA>.

Details about the first 6 kits are listed here!

January, 2021

Cloverbuds -- Using a variety of resources, youth will try out some cloverbud winter activities. **Kitchen Science** -- Every time you cook in the kitchen, you use the science of chemistry to mix and heat ingredients to create things like biscuits, pretzels, fruit salad, french toast and more. Using the kitchen science kit and resource materials provided, youth will learn with their adult or older youth mentor about the science of food in the kitchen. Youth will conduct fun food experiments and then be able to follow recipes to create foods in their kitchens. A "Kitchen Science for Kids" guide will be included in all Kitchen Science kits. **Electricity** -- Using the 4-H Electric Excitement curriculum, you will demystify the "magic" of electric circuits, magnetism, motors and electronics. You will learn what electricity actually is, how it works and how to harness its power.

February, 2021

Cloverbud -- With resources provided, youth will get to try out some cloverbud winter activities. **STEM is Science, Technology, Engineering and Math** -- Youth will engage in learning about scientific concepts and processes, the engineering design process cycle, and technology creation and building. Hands-on activities, which will incorporate creative problem-solving principles, will make up this STEM 4-H project kit and will include most materials for creating. **Child Development** -- Learning about Child Development means learning first about yourself. Using the "Growing On My Own" Child Development Curriculum you will learn about emotions and how unique you are. The activities in this kit are fun ways to focus on you.

DID YOU KNOW.....?

COLUMBIA COUNTY EXTENSION 'S AG EDUCATOR IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MASTER GARDNER VOLUNTEERS, HAVE TWO PORTABLE MICRO-GARDENS THAT ARE LOANED OUT TO AREA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOMS TO BE UTILIZED AS A TEACHING TOOL FOR THE CHILDREN TO LEARN ABOUT GARDENING & THE BENEFITS OF GROWING THEIR OWN FOOD.





UW-MADISON EXTENSION

This past month, FoodWise Coordinator, Caitlin Richardson, continued working on prepping lessons for upcoming teaching events. Some lessons will be done in a live virtual format where Richardson will connect with the classrooms via Google Meet and teach directly to students in the class. Other lessons will be done indirectly where Richardson sends teachers Bitmoji classes for the students to do at their own pace. Students receiving this method of education will receive 5-6 different Bitmoji classrooms with varying topics from MyPlate and the food groups, added sugars to food safety. The Bitmoji classrooms will have a short video created by Richardson introducing students to the main topic as well as 4-5 other clickable items that will take kids to books, activities and games all relating to that lessons' topic. Live lessons will start at the end of January 2021 and the Bitmoji classrooms will be delivered to teachers starting in February 2021.



MEET OUR EDUCATORS
Kimberly Lafler
FoodWise Educator



MEET OUR EDUCATORS
Caitlin Richardson
FoodWise Coordinator

Extension Ag Educator Snapshot—January '21

Marketing with Confidence – Extension Area 14 and 16 Ag Educators are putting on short virtual workshops on Ag Marketing focusing on grain marketing on Tuesday mornings and livestock marketing on Thursday afternoons. Sessions will be 30 minutes long with another 30 minutes of Q & A and discussion. Sessions will occur bi-weekly in January thru March.

Columbia County Master Gardener Volunteers – have successfully become a non-stock corporation. They have applied for 501c-3 federal tax exempt status and will apply for WI tax exempt status when 501c-3 status is confirmed. This will allow them to receive grants and donations from individuals or other companies and function as its own legal entity with tax exempt status and be able to focus on educational work in Columbia County at a higher level than in the past.

Lake WI Farmer Led Watershed Council – Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 7 at 7:00 PM via zoom. CC Land and Water Conservation Department will act as the fiscal agent for this group. They will be working to formalize their organization with bylaws and begin planning three educational events for area farmers in 2021. They will also be encouraging farmers to adopt cover cropping practices beginning in the fall of 2021 by providing cost sharing dollars.

Nutrient Management Planning 2021 - Assistance to farmers will be done mostly in a virtual format. Phone calls, zoom meetings, and individual meetings with farmers in our conference rooms will be the backbone of this programming in 2021. The UW-Nutrient and Pest Management Program has developed a video series to assist farmers in a general manner, while Columbia County Extension and the Land and Water Conservation Department will provide the personal instruction and assistance to help farmers update or initiate Nutrient Management Plans.

COLUMBIA COUNTY EXTENSION

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Columbia.extension.wisc.edu

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