



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
DODGE COUNTY

PRESS RELEASE – Extension in Action

For Immediate Release

May 29, 2024

Area Focus: 4-H and Youth Development

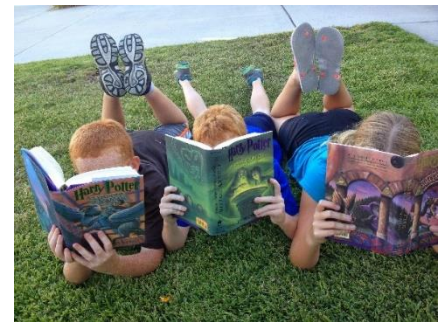
UW Extension offers many great resources for you, your family, and your community in many helpful ways! Check out these great opportunities and tips from the area of 4-H and Youth Development:

Summer Reading Challenge

Explore another world! Visit rare and exciting places! Relax with a great story and read! Where will a book take you?

ALL youth in grades 1-8 are invited to participate in the Summer Reading Challenge and win a prize. Simply log your books on the Summer Reading Challenge Form <https://dodge.extension.wisc.edu/files/2024/04/Summer-Reading.pdf> Then, turn it in at the Youth Building Office during fair week to collect your awesome prizes! Not attending the Fair? Forms can be mailed to: Extension Dodge County, 127 E Oak St, Juneau WI 53039.

This event is sponsored by: Extension Dodge County, Dodge County 4-H Leaders Association, Dodge County Dairy Promotion Committee, and Dodge County Farm Bureau.



SPARKING the way to Nationals in Shooting Sports



Youth develop their Sparks in many ways through the 4-H program. A spark is a passion for a self-identified interest or skill, or a capacity that metaphorically lights a fire in any young person’s life, providing energy, joy, purpose, and direction. Youth sparks are essential. Having a spark gives a sense of direction and encourages goal setting. This group of youth had a spark and continued to work on it. After working hard for almost two years, they are traveling to Nebraska and represent 4-H shooting sports at a national level!

We are very happy to announce that three members qualified and are taking the opportunity to participate as part of the 2024 Wisconsin 4-H

Shooting Sports Team. Ely Lynch, McKayla Conley, and Brooke Keskimaki will be joining other 4-H shooting sports youth from around the state to represent Wisconsin at the 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships in Nebraska this summer. Ely qualified and will be participating in the Shot Gun division which includes Trap, Skeet, and 5-Stand. McKayla Conley qualified and will be participating in the Archery Compound division which includes FITA, Field, and 3-D. Brooke qualified and will be participating in the Air Rifle division which includes Silhouette, Standing, and 3-Position. This is a great opportunity for these youth to see how 4-H can take them to a national level of experience! **Congratulations Ely, McKayla, and Brooke!!**

FoodWise education is funded by the USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – SNAP and Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program – EFNEP. An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.



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Helping Youth Thrive



Wisconsin 4-H wants to learn more about youth perspectives on their involvement in 4-H to find out what areas are working and how we can improve. In Dodge County, there was a 28% response rate to the survey conducted last fall. Most of the areas in Dodge County are at high quality. You can check out the results on the Dodge County Extension website at <https://dodge.extension.wisc.edu/2024/05/helping-youth-thrive/>. One of the areas that is exciting to see is the increase in Sparks. The other areas increase as well, but Sparks was the most significant.

This fall, Wisconsin 4-H will again be encouraging members (ages 13-18) to complete a survey about their 4-H experience. The survey will be sent to all Wisconsin 4-H members by e-mail in the first week of October. Please watch for this link to help 4-H thrive and grow!

Oh, the places you'll go – American Spirit & Citizen Washington Focus

4-H members can apply to two premier trips: American Spirit East and Citizen Washington Focus.

American Spirit East trip participants can experience history & heritage by immersing in a 10-day bus journey to the East Coast and Canada. This trip increases knowledge of American history while experiencing where the foundation of our nation occurred. Some highlighted locations that youth will get to visit include Boston, Niagara Falls, Philadelphia, and New York City!

Learn More Here:

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/american-spirit-east/>



Citizenship Washington

Focus (CWF) is a week-long leadership experience. CWF brings 4-Hers from all over the country to stay in Washington D.C.! Youth learn about the roles of Senators and Representatives in the US government and how these parts work together to form an effective Congress. Youth also get to see government in action by meeting with

their State's members of Congress and watching a House of Representatives meeting. Delegates will also get the opportunity to tour our Nation's Capital and experience the culture that comes with it. Our county also has scholarships available to help offset the cost of these trips! **Learn More Here:**

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/citizenship-washington-focus/>



Have Questions? Extension is here to help.

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Find these topics and more on our website: <http://dodge.extension.wisc.edu>

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