



Ogemaw 4-H Family News

NOVEMBER 2021

Happy November!

Happy November to all of our Ogemaw County 4-H members and families! For those of you who I have not yet met, my name is Enya and I am the new 4-H Program Coordinator for the county. I am extremely excited to be joining the Michigan State University Extension 4-H Team here, and can't wait to meet you and see all of the amazing things that the community has to offer. As you may already know, 4-H enrollment has re-opened for the 2021-22 season (with no enrollment fees!)! Enrollment is available through several avenues:

1. Current & Previous 4-H Members: if you already have a profile in 4-H online, now is the time to log in and update it! You can log in here: <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>
2. New 4-H Members: if you are new to 4-H, please reach out to me and I would be happy to discuss the next steps and available opportunities!
3. New 4-H Members *that have spoken to club leaders or staff already*: if you are ready to enroll, you can visit https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/michigan_4_h_enrollment for step-by-step enrollment instructions, or call me—I'd be happy to help!

Enough business, let's move on to the fun stuff! In this newsletter, you will find information about this month's events (statewide), exciting new topic areas, volunteer opportunities, and more! I love to brainstorm and hear new ideas, so please feel free to contact me with ideas for clubs or events! If you any questions, ideas, or just want to get to know me don't hesitate to contact me. Have a great month everyone!

Sincerely,
Enya deFeijter

Ogemaw County 4-H Program Coordinator



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**Join us on Face-
book!**
[facebook.com/
OgemawCounty4H/](https://facebook.com/OgemawCounty4H/)

*Have
suggestions for
newsletter
content? Scan the
code!*



Tons of topics and opportunities to choose from....

- ⇒ Swine
- ⇒ Dairy
- ⇒ Beef
- ⇒ Sheep
- ⇒ Horses
- ⇒ Shooting Sports
- ⇒ Goats
- ⇒ Poultry*
- ⇒ Rabbits*
- ⇒ Astronomy*
- ⇒ Babysitting (SPIN Club)*
- ⇒ 4-H Future Naturalists: Reptiles & Amphibians (SPIN Club)
- ⇒ 4-H Exploration Days

*some topic offerings are dependent on adult volunteer availability

SCAN ME TO VOLUNTEER!



Offering a diverse range of topics and interest areas, 4-H is the largest youth development organization in Michigan. In fact, each year more than 200,000 young people, ages 5-19, explore what interests and excites them as they grow with Michigan 4-H. In program areas ranging from science and technology to clothing and textiles, and so much more, 4-H provides fun, educational opportunities that empower young people with skills to lead for a lifetime and become the foundation for future success.

If you have previously enrolled in Michigan 4-H or already connected with a club or county staff person, visit 4-H Online to complete or update your enrollment for the current year (check out the 4-H Online Family Guide if you need assistance!). Resources for enrollment and updating your profile can be found here: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/4-h-online-2-0-family-guide>

If you are new to Michigan 4-H and want to learn more or sign up, contact your county's 4-H program coordinator, Enya, and she will follow up with you about next steps in the youth enrollment process. Enya can also assist you in identifying opportunities and/or a 4-H club in your community that meets your interest areas and availability!

Ready to grow with 4-H? **Sign up by scanning the QR code to the right** There is no enrollment fee for Michigan 4-H - come join the fun!

SCAN ME TO ENROLL!



Enya deFeijter

4-H Program Coordinator
defeijte@msu.edu | (989) 345-0692

We are always looking for passionate adult volunteers to help lead clubs in the community! Scan the code (left) to learn more & apply!

Michigan 4-H to participate in Giving Tuesday

On Nov. 30, Michigan 4-H is once again participating in the global day of giving, Giving Tuesday. The ultimate goal is to engage Michigan 4-H alumni and friends in an online effort to make real-time, fast, easy and secure gifts in support of Michigan 4-H.

From 12 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. EST, Michigan 4-H supporters are invited to participate in Giving Tuesday by giving their support financially or helping spread the word via social media channels and word of mouth. All funds raised will support county 4-H endowments.

County 4-H endowments are funds created by gifts from one or more donors to the Michigan 4-H Foundation. These endowments provide a perpetual source of income for county 4-H programs, where the principal amount remains intact and the investment income supports annual needs for a county 4-H program.

4-H Events and Workshops

November: Investigating Food with Science

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/investigating-food-with-science-fall2021>

An after-school program exploring how cooking is an experiment and baking is a science. Each week MSU Extension educators will explore the science behind food-related topics and food safety along with a fun, kid-friendly recipe or experiment demonstration. The demonstrations will be designed for youth to experiment at home if they desire, and provide the youth a chance to share their experience the following week. Join us online via Zoom using your laptop, tablet, smartphone, or any device with internet access. These are free workshops taught by MSU Extension food safety educators.

Nov. 1, 2021 - Walking Water!

Nov. 8, 2021 - Temperature Matters!

Nov. 15, 2021 - My Mold Wins!

Nov. 29, 2021 - The Magical Balloon!

November 6: A Spectacular Youth Leadership Institute

Frankenmuth, Grand Rapids, Harrison, Jackson, Marquette and, Novi

A statewide leadership training for youth ages 12-19. Youth will participate in face-to-face

experiences at six sites across the state. The agenda includes team building, leadership training, and a panel discussion with four incredible young leaders.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/yli-frankenmuth>

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/yli-grand-rapids>

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/yli-harrison>

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/yli-jackson>

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/yli-marquette>

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/yli-novi>

November 13: 2021 Michigan 4-H Creative Arts Celebration

Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center, 104 Conservation Drive, Roscommon, MI 48653

The 2021 Michigan 4-H Creative Arts Celebration is open to 4-H staff, adult 4-H volunteers and adults who work with youth in a variety of educational settings. The workshop is for individuals who are willing to re-teach the skills they learn and the knowledge they gain back in their communities and to have creative fun! Cost: \$38 per person

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/2021-michigan-4-h-creative-arts-celebration>

November 14: Officer Roles & Parliamentary Procedure Training

Washtenaw County MSU Extension Office, Ann Arbor

Learn about essential officer roles: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer and the ways they support club and advisory committee work.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/officer-roles-and-parliamentary-procedure-training>

November 20: 4-H In the Kitchen—Forgotten Realms Edition

Zoom Webinar

Come join the 4-H in the Kitchen Crew and the 4-H League of Clovers Gaming Society as we join forces to bring you a special cooking workshop to help you cook an array of dishes right out of the Forgotten Realms of Dungeons and Dragons!

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-in-the-kitchen-forgotten-realms-edition>

For the most up-to-date events listing, go to <http://4h.msue.msu.edu/>





New indoor masking guidelines for MSU Extension events

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to shift and change, Michigan State University issued new guidance for the broader MSU community on October 13. These changes impact attendees of MSU Extension programs occurring on non-MSU property. **Effective immediately, the following guidelines apply to indoor MSU Extension or Michigan**

4-H programs or events:

- Those who participate in MSU Extension programming indoors on MSU property or any property reserved/rented for an MSU event are **required** to wear a face covering. This applies to anyone over the age of 2, regardless of vaccination status (unless they have a medical exemption).
- Those who participate in MSU Extension programming indoors **on non-MSU property are encouraged but not required** to wear masks **unless required by local regulations or the venue**. This may include off-site Michigan 4-H programs hosted by MSU Extension volunteer groups. MSU Extension personnel in attendance are required to wear a face covering.

For the purpose of MSU Extension events and programs, indoor events are considered those in an enclosed building with limited airflow. Barns and other out-buildings that have multiple doors that can be fully opened to maximize air flow are considered an outdoor, open air facility.

Who must wear a mask?

The following chart may be useful to clarify masking requirements for MSU Extension professionals and program participants. For the purpose of this chart, MSU Extension volunteers and 4-H members are considered participants.

		Is the event being held on an MSU property or on a property	
		Yes	No
Is MSU a sponsor of the event or program?	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ MSU Extension personnel ✓ Participants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ MSU Extension personnel ○ Participants are encouraged, but not required to wear masks unless required
	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ MSU Extension personnel ✓ Participants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All MSU Extension personnel and participants are encouraged, but not required to wear masks unless required

✓ **Indicates that a mask must be worn.**

Although these new guidelines provide recommendations for indoor events, MSU Extension still encourages groups to meet outdoors whenever possible. Additional information about COVID-19 best practices and mask exceptions can be found at extension.msu.edu/approvedactivities. As always, this site will continue to host the most up-to-date information about in-person event requirements.

Thank you for all you do in support of Michigan's young people and for helping to protect public health while meeting face-to-face.

**Save the date
for the 2022
State 4-H
Rabbit
& Cavy Show!**



The State 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show will be held on January 29, 2022 at the MSU Pavilion in East Lansing. This one-day event is open to participants age 8 to 19. To enter, exhibitors must be Michigan 4-H members and own the rabbits or cavies they enter.

Youth may enter as many breeds as they wish. Look for registration information soon at www.canr.msu.edu/events/state-4-h-rabbit-and-cavy-show.

4-H Exploration Days: Session Instructors Wanted!

Contact:
4h.expodays@msu.edu

Michigan State University Extension [4-H Exploration Days](#) is a pre-college program for more than 1500 youth (ages 12-19 years old) from across the state of Michigan. Come volunteer for this exciting program that allows youth to try new things, gain confidence and independence through hands-on learning, and make friends that can last a lifetime. As a volunteer, you get the opportunity to share your skills, passion, and knowledge with youth from across the state in a topic that you love!

The 2022 event is slated for June 22-June 24, 2022 on the campus of Michigan State University. MSU Extension is committed to ensuring that participants and volunteers of Exploration Days have a safe and enjoyable experience and will have guidelines and expectations in place to achieve this.



All non-MSU faculty and staff will need to complete the MSU Extension Volunteer Selection Process in order to volunteer as part of this program. Specific directions on how to apply will be sent to those that are selected. The process will require an application, background checks, references, an interview, and online orientation.

Information on Instructor roles and Youth Co-Instructors roles can be found on the Exploration Days website under [Volunteer Information](#). Please take a few minutes to review.

New Session Times! Sessions take place on:

- Thursday, June 23 from 8:30am-11:30am (3 hour session- Session A)
- Thursday, June 23 from 1:30pm-4:30pm (3 hour session- Session B)
- Thursday, June 23 from 8:30am-11:30am AND 1:30pm-4:30pm (6 hour session- Session C)*
- Friday, June 24 from 8:30am-11:00am (2 1/2 hour session-Session D)



Think outside the box for session ideas! Some great session topic areas in the past include:

- Mental health/self care related topics
- A day in the life of (a specific career path)
- Recreational sports
- Art, culture, crafts, music, dance
- Animals and animal science
- Coding, website development and technology

Session proposal requests are now open until **December 15, 2022**. In completing the form, you will want to come prepared with the title, description, basic idea of cost per youth participant, any co-instructors/session (youth or adult) that you know (as of now) and their contact information. Please note a session submission does not equate to a session at the event. Not all sessions will be accepted due to need, size of sessions, and spacing availability. Please use this link to complete the survey for each session you wish to have considered:

https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_OiFTMshS41iYerQ



STARSTRUCK BY SPACE? MESMERIZED BY THE MOON?

new Ogemaw
County SPIN Club:
Astronomy

COMING
SOON



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



Do you love your four-legged furry friends?

WE ARE LOOKING FOR CANINE CLUB VOLUNTEER LEADERS!



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Rabbits, goats, poultry.... oh my!!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR SMALL ANIMAL CLUB VOLUNTEER LEADERS!

Interested? Please contact Enya, 4-H Program Coordinator
email: defejite@msu.edu | call: 989.345.0692



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NEW SPIN Club in Ogemaw County!

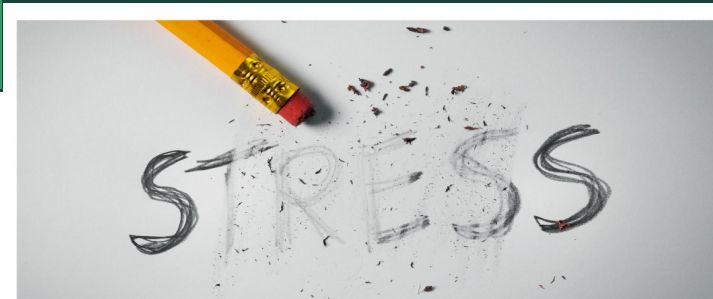
4-H Future Naturalists: Reptiles & Amphibians

Coming Spring 2022



Whether you want a short-term volunteer experience or a long-term role, 4-H has an opportunity for you!

Reach out to your 4-H Program Coordinator or visit
https://www.canr.msu.edu/becoming_a_4_h_volunteer/
to learn more!



Join Us Online

HELPING KIDS MANAGE STRESS

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 10TH | 7:30PM

Register in advance for this MSU Extension virtual workshop at the following link:
<https://msu.zoom.us/j/94461234567>

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STATEWIDE OPPORTUNITIES

JOIN 4-H STEAM CORPS



AmeriCorps



18 USC 707

RUN 4-H SPIN CLUBS!
RECRUIT VOLUNTEERS!
BUILD PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE!
EXPLORE A NEW CAREER FIELD!
NETWORK! GIVE BACK!

AmeriCorps members receive a living stipend and education award. Learn more and submit an application here:
www.canr.msu.edu/4hsteamcorps

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**MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY**

Extension

Air Fried

4-H in the Kitchen: Forgotten Realms Edition
November 20 and December 4, 2021
2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
Register today!

Deep fried

**Mason County 4-H
League of Clovers
Gaming Society**
231-845-3365



Ogemaw County 4-H Family Newsletter

DECEMBER 2021

Happy December!

Happy December to all of our Ogemaw County 4-H members, volunteers, and families! As we reach the end of 2021, I want to take a moment to wish everyone a happy & healthy holiday season, and I hope you are excited for the New Year! We are so grateful to each and every one of you in the community for the ongoing support that you have shown for 4-H in the county, and we can't wait to see what we can accomplish together in the new year.

A new year also means new opportunities to engage with 4-H, and I am excited to announce four new SPIN clubs, which can be found on [p. 4](#) of this newsletter! There are also some exciting ways for volunteers to join the Ogemaw County 4-H family, and I hope that you will choose to engage with us in the new year. We have both short and long-term opportunities available, so please reach out if you are interested, and I will happily talk about the opportunities available for you!

In this newsletter, you will find information about this month's statewide events ([p. 2](#)), 4-H Exploration Days 2022 ([p. 3](#)), new spin club topics ([p. 4](#)), volunteer opportunities ([p. 5](#)), and—especially for this month—holiday activities, crafts, and recipes ([p. 6–10](#))! In the next month or so, keep your eyes out for information regarding summer camp and a search for camp counselors & chaperones. Another note: Colleen has been working tirelessly to assemble member pins, and will be mailing and/or distributing them to club leaders in the next few weeks!

And, finally, if you love shopping—I have a great news! Just in time for the holidays, MSU Extension is excited to launch the first-ever Michigan 4-H pop-up shop! The shop is open to the public and a percentage of all proceeds will be donated to Michigan 4-H when you use this link: <https://bit.ly/30pdNJw>.

-Enya

Ogemaw County 4-H Program Coordinator



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MSUExtensionOge-
mawCounty4H](https://www.facebook.com/MSUExtensionOgemawCounty4H)

**Shop the
Michigan 4-H
store this
holiday season**



Just in time for the holidays, MSU Extension is excited to launch the first-ever Michigan 4-H pop-up shop!

Offered in collaboration with National 4-H Council through Shop 4-H, the Michigan 4-H store offers Michigan 4-H branded apparel and other gifts. Visit the store online and find the perfect item for your favorite 4-H'er, volunteer, alumni, professional or fan! The shop is open to the public and a percentage of all proceeds will be donated to Michigan 4-H.

To order items, visit <https://bit.ly/3OpdNJw>.

The store will remain open beyond the holiday season to continue offering Michigan 4-H branded gear to the Michigan 4-H community.

STATEWIDE 4-H Events and Workshops

December 6: Future Squad—Making a Connection in a Minute or Less

Zoom Webinar

Did you know that you make a great first impression in one minute or less with a great elevator pitch? Learn how in this interactive session for Future Squad members.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/future-squad12-6

December 7: Grow Your Money— Investing and Risk

Zoom Webinar

Young people have the advantage of time when it comes to investing. Start your path to wealth at a young age and learn how to make your money work for you!

www.canr.msu.edu/events/youth-money-12-7

December 11: Mason County 4-H Sweet Sales Workshop

West Shore Community College, Scottville, and Zoom Webinar

Learn how to make candy and learn the financial skills to sell your own candy.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/mason-county-4-h-sweet-sales-workshop

December 14: Shiawassee 4-H Family Holiday Goosechase

Online

Use the Goosechase app to collect the array of items requested. Upload the images and receive points for each. Get the whole family involved! Just use your mobile phone and have your family help you.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/shiawassee-4-h-family-holiday-goosechase

December 17: 'Tis the Season to be Scientific Virtual Challenge

Online

Mason County 4-H is hosting a virtual holiday and STEM-themed GooseChase scavenger hunt with prizes going to the top three finishers.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/mason-county-4-h-tis-the-season-to-be-scientific-virtual-challenge

December 20: 4-H Future Squad - Are You Paying Yourself First?

Zoom Webinar

Putting aside money for the future can help you achieve your goals. Learn how to pay yourself first and create a saving habit in your life for both short-term and long-term goals.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/future-squad12-20

December 20: Lenawee Junior Master Gardener

Lenawee Intermediate School District Center for a Sustainable Future, Adrian

Do you love plants and gardening? Learn more about plants, soil, and gardening in a year with Junior Master Gardener. The Junior Master Gardener program is an international youth gardening program of the university cooperative Extension network.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/future-squad12-20

For the most up-to-date events listing, go to <http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events>.

Support Michigan 4-H with holiday shopping!



Get ready for the holidays AND support 4-H with purchases on AmazonSmile, SHOP 4-H Online and at JOANN's Fabric.

AmazonSmile will give **0.5%** of eligible purchases to the Michigan 4-H Foundation when you shop at <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-1539997>.

Buy your 4-H essentials at the **SHOP 4-H Online Store** (<https://shop4-h.org/?rfsn=871792.16dd0>) and **5%** of the purchase will go back to Michigan 4-H!

JOANN Fabrics shoppers who use their free 4-H loyalty card (<http://www.joann.com/4-h/>) will save **15%** while also giving **2.5%** back to the National 4-H Council.



Submit your ideas to host a session at 4-H Exploration Days!

4-H Exploration Days is a team effort and we need you! We're seeking inspiring and fun educational sessions for the 2022 4-H Exploration Days event!

An exciting pre-college program for youth ages 12-19, 4-H Exploration Days bring together approximately 1,500 youth from across the state of Michigan. The 2022 event is slated for June 22-June 24, on the campus of MSU and now is your chance to get involved! We are looking for sessions and instructors that allow youth to try new things, gain confidence and independence through hands-on learning, and make friends that can last a lifetime.

Sessions will be offered in 2.5, 3 and 6 hour time blocks on Thursday or Friday. Information on instructor roles and session times can be found on the 4-H Exploration Days website under at www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_exploration_days/Volunteer-Information/.

Think outside the box for session ideas! Some great session topic areas in the past included: mental health/self care; a day in the life of a specific career path; recreational sports; art, culture, crafts, music, dance; animals and animal science; coding, website development and technology; and food, nutrition, basic cooking.

The session proposal process is now open until December 15. Notification will be sent by early 2022 regarding acceptance. Please submit your session ideas online at msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0iFTMshS41iYerQ.

If you need assistance with the survey, have questions, or would like to brainstorm session ideas or ways to make a topic hands-on, please reach out to Laurie Rivetto at rivettoL@msu.edu and/or send an e-mail to: 4h.expodays@msu.edu.

Explore democracy at the 2022 Citizenship Washington Focus



4-H Citizenship Washington Focus is an exciting opportunity for 4-H youth ages 15-19 to spend a week in Washington, D.C. learning about the nation's government.

Participants will enjoy hands-on leadership workshops, meet with U.S. senators and representatives and tour historical sites. Featuring national experts and leaders, along with opportunities for career exploration, using your voice and building connections with teens from across the country, this is a can't miss experience for Michigan 4-H'ers!

The Michigan delegation will depart by bus on Saturday, June 25 and return on Friday, July 1. The first stop along the route is the 9/11 Memorial in Pennsylvania followed by an overnight stay in Gettysburg. On Sunday, the group will visit the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum, travel the battlefields with a licensed tour guide and see the Gettysburg Cyclorama Map of the Civil War before heading on to Washington, D.C.

Once in D.C., the group will stay at the Hyatt Regency in Bethesda, Maryland. The cost for this trip is \$2,000 per youth, which includes transportation, lodging, conference costs and most meals. Spaces for this exciting event are limited, to learn more contact your local 4-H program coordinator or email Connie Lange at langec@msu.edu.



4-H Future Naturalists: Reptiles & Amphibians

Did you know that we have over 20 amphibian species in Michigan?

This SPIN club is designed to help you learn about the reptiles & amphibians found right here in the Mitten State!

There will be 6 meetings, with an optional 7th meeting in the field.



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4-H SPIN Club: Astronomy

Did you know that Saturn is the only planet in our solar system that is less dense than water? It could float in a bathtub if anybody could build a bathtub big enough! (NASA)



Interested in learning more about astronomy? This might be the club for you!



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Wondering how to enroll in a club and/or project? Check out this video!

Crafts Around the World 4-H SPIN Club

Enjoy learning about different cultures, and how to make simple crafts from six of the seven continents: Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia, North America and South America.



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Cloverbuds: Science Exploration 4-H SPIN Club

This SPIN club is designed for our Cloverbuds - ages 5 to 7 - to have the opportunity to explore the fascinating world of science through hands-on games and activities!



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Volunteers Needed: Small Animal Clubs!

We are looking for volunteers who are willing to lead clubs centered around the following animals: goats, rabbits, poultry.

Have fun and sign up to volunteer with a friend - two heads are better than one!



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Volunteers Needed: Canine Club!

This club is designed to help youth learn about the care and health of their furry friends. Learn about techniques for safety, record-keeping, obedience, and agility.

Dog-lovers: this is your chance to lead a fun club focused on your favorite animal!



Interested in volunteering? Contact us!

Enya deFeijter
4-H Program Coordinator

defejite@msu.edu
989-345-0692



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Want to learn more about the steps to becoming a volunteer? Please contact me at 989-345-0692 or defejite@msu.edu



Calling all candy-lovers - virtual opportunity available!

Mason County 4-H is hosting the 4-H Sweet Sales Workshop on December 11th. Meeting will be held on-site in Mason, but will be offering a zoom opportunity so that statewide participants can join!

Participants are going to learn how to make homemade lollipops, just in time for the holiday season. We're going to explore just how lollipops are formed, and participants are also going to delve in to how to take your homemade candies and earn some spending money for the holiday season.

[Click here to register!](#)

Your free enrollment in **Cooking with Kristi** includes an invitation to a private Facebook group where you can access six videos to watch on your schedule. You will also receive a PDF to go along with each video that includes the recipe and other valuable information about kitchen safety and cooking vocabulary. This series is recommended for youth 10 and up or younger with help from an adult.

[Click here to register!](#)

COOKING WITH KRISTI

Series 2



6 NEW RECIPES TO ENJOY!

STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



4-H At Home: Family Holiday Activities

🕒 30 - 45 minutes | Grades: 4-8

Foaming Frosty Snowmen

Build snowy critters with baking soda, then dissolve them down and watch them bubble away.

About the Activity

This fun activity draws from two areas of chemistry and shows kids how to form mini snow creatures using household supplies, then fizz them all away into a bubbly goo.



Supplies

- Baking soda
- Vinegar
- Water
- Liquid dish soap
- 2 soup bowls or similar-sized containers
- Measuring cup (1 cup size)
- Tablespoon
- Teaspoon
- Sticky note and pen or pencil
- **Optional*** small plastic beads for decorating

Grades: 4-8

Topic: Chemistry

Time: 30-45 minutes



4-H At Home: Family Holiday Activities

 30 - 45 minutes | Grades: 4-8

Activity Steps

Whether or not you have snow on the ground, you can follow these steps to create a pair of snowy figures in your kitchen.

- 1 Start by measuring one cup of baking soda into each bowl.

DID YOU KNOW? Baking soda, known to scientists as sodium bicarbonate, is what is called a base. **Bases** are substances that, when in a watery solution, are slippery to the touch and bitter to the taste. Bases are often used in cleaning products, like soap and toothpaste.

- 2 Add three tablespoons of water to each bowl. This will turn the baking soda powder into a moldable form.
- 3 Into just one of the bowls, pour one teaspoon of dish soap. Using a sticky note, label the bowl that contains the soap, so you can keep track of it.
- 4 For each bowl, thoroughly mix the contents and then work them with your hands into a moldable, dough-like ball. If they're not holding together well enough, you may need to add more water. Add just a few drops at a time, so you don't add too much.
- 5 Then form the dough balls in each bowl into a figure of your choice: A snowman, a snow dog – it's up to you! Then, add some decorations – beads, buttons, googly eyes, that's your choice, too.
- 6 Once you've admired your handiwork, it's time to destroy it! Fill your measuring cup with vinegar.

DID YOU KNOW? Vinegar is a diluted kind of **acid**, called an **acetic acid**. Acids are substances that occur all around us, in citrus

fruits like lemons and oranges, and are found in our bodies, too. They are substances that contain hydrogen ions in water (an ion is an atom or a group of atoms).

- 7 Now, pour the cup of vinegar over your first sculpture (the one without the soap) and observe the results.
- 8 Refill the measuring cup with vinegar, pour it over the other snow creature with the soap, and watch what happens.

FUN FACT: Combining baking soda and vinegar creates a chemical reaction: baking soda as the base neutralizes the acid in vinegar. The reaction releases carbon dioxide gas (the same gas that we breathe out of our bodies when we exhale), which makes it bubble and expand.



4-H At Home: Family Holiday Activities

🕒 2 Hours | Grades: Pre-K-2, 3-5, 6-8

Family Gingerbread House Decorating Contest

Description

Have some quality family time by holding a family Gingerbread House decorating contest.

Activity

1. Purchase or make home-made Gingerbread Houses. Be sure to get some frosting and edible decorations!
2. Gather your family together for a night of fun.
3. Set a time limit.
4. Decorate the Gingerbread Houses as teams or individuals.
5. Enjoy judging each other's creations, or have friends or other family members judge.
6. Pick a winner and begin eating those yummy houses together!



Supplies



Graham Crackers



Icing



Piping Bag



Candy



Pretzels



Dried Fruits



Sprinkles for Decorating

Thank you to 4-H Youth In Action Award winner, Amelia Day, and her family for contributing thoughtful activities for this holiday guide.

Christmas Village with Wood Birdhouses

🕒 1-2 Hours | Grades: Pre-K-2, 3-5, 6-8



Description

Create your own Christmas village by decorating unfinished bird houses.

Supplies

- Assorted Shapes and Sizes of Unfinished Wood Birdhouses
- Assorted Colors of Acrylic Paints
- Brushes
- Mod Podge Glue
- Assortment of embellishments - Jingle Bells, Chenille Stems, Pompoms, Felts, Washi Tapes, Ribbons, Clothespins, Gems, Buttons
- Craft Glue

Activity Steps

1. Using a photo as a guide, paint wood birdhouses. Let dry completely.
2. Add glue embellishments in place using craft glue.
3. Drizzle fabric paint to resemble snow onto roof edges and sprinkle with glitter.
4. Brush Mod Podge onto roof tops and sprinkle with glitter.

▶ View online at 4-H.org/Village

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4-H At Home: Holiday Cookie Recipes

Find more at <https://4-h.org/about/4-h-at-home/holidays/cookies/recipes/>



▶ Possible allergens in this recipe include eggs, flour, chocolate chips. See Glossary for substitutions.



Grandma's Chocolate Chip Cookies

Cole Langhofer, Kansas, Plains Livewires



Prep: 10 minutes
Bake: 11 minutes

Ingredients

1 cup shortening	2 1/4 cups flour
1/2 cup sugar	1 tsp baking soda
1 cup brown sugar	1 tsp salt
1 tsp vanilla	1 cup chocolate chips
2 eggs	

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 375°.
2. In a large bowl, cream together shortening, sugars, and vanilla with mixer.
3. Stir in the chocolate chips and raisins.
4. Drop by heaping tablespoonfuls 2 inches apart onto ungreased baking sheets.
5. Bake for 9-11 minutes or until edges are firm.
6. Cool for 5 minutes; before removing to wire racks to cool completely.

4-H At Home: Holiday Cookie Recipes

Find more at <https://4-h.org/about/4-h-at-home/holidays/cookies/recipes/>



▶ Possible allergens include butter, eggs, flour, chocolate chips. See Glossary for possible substitutions.



Rocky Road Bars

Katharine Girone, Illinois, 4-H Alumni of Bell Plain Hustlers,
Tazwell County 4-H Program Coordinator

Ingredients

- 1 cup butter, softened
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup packed brown sugar
- 2 large eggs, room temperature
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ cups all-purpose flour*
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups miniature marshmallows
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups semisweet chocolate chips*

Prep: 15 minutes
Bake: 30 minutes

*NOTE:

You can replace the $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of flour with cocoa powder if you want extra chocolate. You can mix & match chips; peanut butter chips and chocolate chips are a favorite of mine.

Directions

1. Preheat oven at 350°
2. In a large bowl, cream butter and sugars until light and fluffy.
3. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Beat in vanilla.
4. Combine the flour, baking soda and salt; gradually add to creamed mixture and mix well.
5. Stir in the marshmallows and chips.
6. Spread into a greased 13-in. x 9-in. baking pan.
7. Bake for 25-30 minutes or until golden brown.
8. Cool on a wire rack.
9. Cut into bars and serve.