



**OKLAHOMA COUNTY  
EXTENSION**

## **REPORT TO THE PUBLIC March 2025**

### **4-H in the Classrooms**

March was a busy and exciting month for Oklahoma County 4-H as youth were engaged in hands-on learning across a variety of settings.

The 4-H Cloverbud Club (5-7 year olds), dove into the world of aquatic ecosystems with a fun and interactive session on fish species and basic angling tactics. These young learners practiced identifying common fish found in Oklahoma and even learned how to cast using backyard fishing setups.

In the classroom, 2nd grade students explored the topic of erosion through hands-on demonstrations that brought soil science to life. Meanwhile, pre-K students were introduced to the vital role of pollinators through story time, interactive games, and a closer look at the insects that help our world bloom.



OSU EXTENSION  
**OKLAHOMA COUNTY  
4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**





OSU EXTENSION  
**OKLAHOMA COUNTY  
4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

## 4-H Holiday Fest Fair

Oklahoma County 4-H hosted their first annual Holiday Fest Fair. This was a festive new event where youth showcased their creativity through exhibits, crafts, and holiday-themed projects. It was a great opportunity to bring families and club members together in celebration and friendly competition.

## National 4-H Ignite Conference

Cody Yount, Oklahoma County 4-H Educator, had the opportunity to chaperone the STEM Innovators delegation on their trip to the National 4-H Ignite Conference in Washington, D.C. This was a four-day interactive summit, filled with inspiring speakers, hands-on workshops, off-site experiences, and career exploration. The youth returned inspired and equipped with new ideas for science, technology, and innovation projects in their clubs and communities.

We're proud to continue fostering curiosity, leadership, and a love of learning across all ages in Oklahoma County!







**OKLAHOMA COUNTY  
EXTENSION**

## **Master Gardeners Serving the Community**



The Oklahoma County Master Gardeners assisted the Oklahoma Hall of Fame staff and volunteers at the Gaylord-Pickens Museum with their "Spring Thing" event on Thursday, March 20th, from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm



This is an annual event held by the museum for families that included spring crafts, story time, games, and potting plants.



The Master Gardener and "Intern" volunteers helped with the planting portion of the event and worked with around 95 adults and children to help them create their own "garden."







**OKLAHOMA COUNTY  
EXTENSION**

## **SPRING BREAK BABYSITTING WORKSHOP HELD**

The Edmond Library hosted a Babysitting 101 workshop for two days during Spring Break. Lisa Hamblin, Family and Consumer Sciences Educator taught topics such as home safety, age-appropriate discipline, healthy snack preparation, and the business side of babysitting.

The Oklahoma City-County Health Department partnered with Lisa to certify the students in CPR, First Aid, AED, and Stop the Bleed. The teens also learned about infant safe sleep and shaken baby syndrome.

Mary Ryan, from Extension's CNEP (Community Nutrition Education Program) taught the importance of hand washing, including a fun activity with glow in the dark "germs".





**OKLAHOMA COUNTY  
EXTENSION**

## **Will Rogers Elementary Water Fair**

Will Rogers Elementary had 123 students who participated in a Water Fair, hosted by Andrew Fleet, OSU Extension Water Conservation Educator and Cody Yount, 4-H Educator. The session began with a brief, age-appropriate explanation of how these natural processes shape the Earth's surface over time.

The students participated in a "peppermint weathering" experiment. Each child received a peppermint candy and was instructed to place it in their mouth without chewing. Every 30 seconds, over the course of five minutes, they removed the peppermint and observed how it changed. After each interval, they recorded their observations through simple sketches, noting details such as fading of the red stripes, changes in shape or size, and the appearance of any holes or cracks. This activity helped illustrate how physical weathering—caused by friction and dissolution—gradually breaks down materials.

The second activity was a scenario-based matching game. Students were presented with real-world examples such as "a mudslide flowing down a hill" or "sand settling at the bottom of a river." Their task was to correctly categorize each scenario under one of the three processes: weathering, erosion, or deposition.

**Squeeze  
Every  
Drop.com**







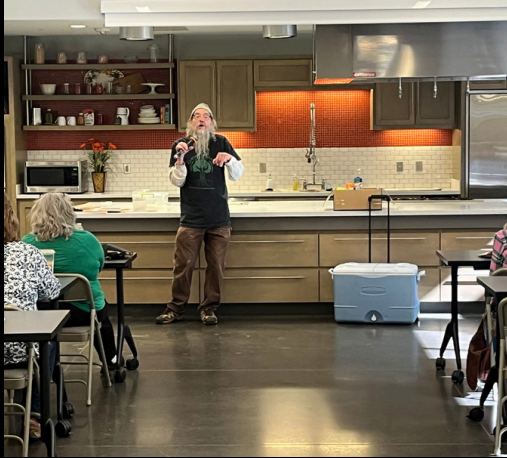
**OKLAHOMA COUNTY  
EXTENSION**

## **Master Composting Classes Resume**

Mason Huddleston, Oklahoma County Urban Agriculture and Natural Resource Educator, started a 6 week course, training 42 individuals in composting and waste management. The program focused on the environmental benefits of composting, taught participants how to build home compost piles and vermicompost bins for the home, as well as introduced volunteer opportunities that support community composting efforts.

Through the first four weeks, participants had the opportunity to listen to several guest speakers from OSU, including entomologist, Dr. Andrine Shufran, who discussed compost critters and their role in the compost ecosystem.

Special guests from Common Wealth Urban Farms informed the class on the various volunteer opportunities available to help create compost for the farm and community.



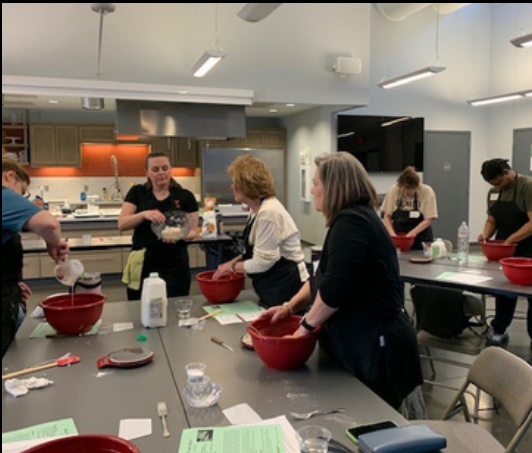


**OKLAHOMA COUNTY  
EXTENSION**

## **Soda Bread Workshops**

The Oklahoma County Extension Office conducted two community workshops on Irish Soda Bread, facilitated by Family & Consumer Sciences Educator and Registered Dietitian, Taylor Conner. These sessions were held on March 11th and 17th at the Oklahoma County OSU Extension Conference Center. The workshops provided participants with an overview of the historical and cultural significance of Irish Soda Bread, followed by instruction and hands-on experience in its preparation.

Post-workshop evaluations indicated a significant increase in participant confidence in their ability to prepare Irish Soda Bread independently, with an average confidence rating of 4.6 out of 5. Notably, a majority of respondents expressed an intention to continue baking and explore recipe variations.





## OKLAHOMA COUNTY EXTENSION

### *Extension Staff:*

LaDonna Hines - Extension Director

Lisa Hamblin - Family & Consumer  
Sciences Educator

Taylor Conner - Family & Consumer  
Sciences Educator

Julia Laughlin - Horticulture Educator

Mason Huddleston - Urban Ag  
Natural Resources Educator

Andrew Fleet - Water Conservation  
Educator

Cody Yount - 4-H Educator

Serena Woodard - 4-H Educator

Lori Goodbary - CNEP Area  
Coordinator

Danyelle Kuss - 4-H Youth Mental  
Health Educator

Aleshia Maldonado - Strong Dads  
Educator

Kenny Garcia-Taveras - Strong Dads  
Educator

**OSU Extension provides research-based resources you can use to improve your home, workplace, and community. We offer programs and services that are specifically designed to solve the problems that county residents face. Please check out our website for the calendar of events <https://calendar.okstate.edu/oces/> to learn of new workshops or programs being offered.**

**You can follow us on Facebook for a glimpse into how your Oklahoma County Extension Educators and staff are serving you and the community.**

**Be sure to check out Oklahoma County OSU Extension's monthly podcast "The Urban Gardener" with Julia Laughlin, Horticulture Educator, Mason Huddleston, Urban Ag & Natural Resources Educator and Andrew Fleet, Water Conservation Educator**



### *Contact Us:*



**2500 NE 63rd Street  
Oklahoma City, OK 73111 [extension.okstate.edu/county/  
oklahoma/oklahoma.html](https://extension.okstate.edu/county/oklahoma/oklahoma.html)**



**405-713-1125**



**[@OKCountyExt](https://twitter.com/OKCountyExt)**



**[facebook.com/okcountyextension](https://facebook.com/okcountyextension)**



**[@okcountyext](https://www.instagram.com/okcountyext)**

Oklahoma State University, as an equal opportunity employer, complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding non-discrimination. Oklahoma State University is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all individuals and does not discriminate based on race, religion, age, sex, color, national origin, marital status, disability, or veteran status with regard to employment, educational programs and activities, and/or admissions.