



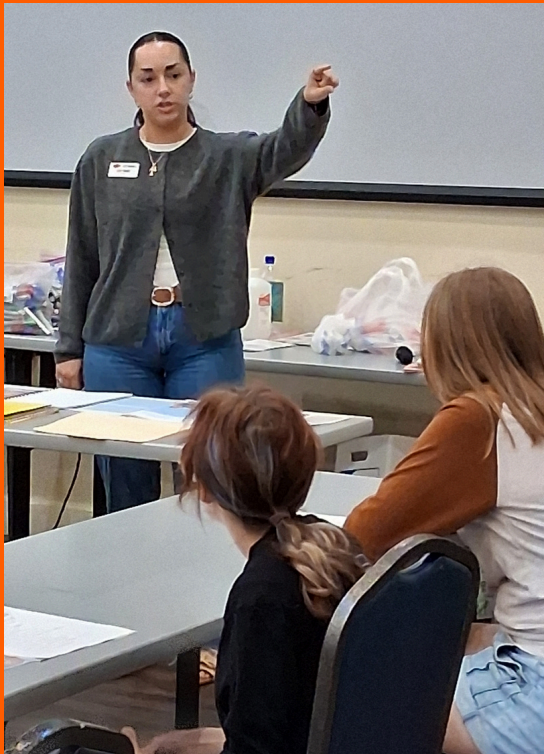
**OKLAHOMA COUNTY
EXTENSION**

REPORT TO THE PUBLIC May 2025

Babysitting 101 Workshop Held at the MAC

Family and Consumer Sciences Educator, Lisa Hamblin, taught a Babysitting 101 workshop at the Edmond MAC, Multipurpose Activity Center. She was joined by Lilly Ruark, OSU Extension Intern and Mary Ryan, Community Nutrition Education Assistant.

Teens created babysitter bags, learned about the importance of handwashing along with infant safe sleep, and were certified in CPR, first aid and AED. They also learned about appropriate discipline, weather safety and how to market their new business.





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4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

Kase's Little Library

Oklahoma County 4-H member, Kase Curtis recently completed an inspiring service project titled Kase's Little Library, aimed at bringing comfort and joy to young patients at the Children's Hospital. Setting out with a goal to collect 50 new, unused books for donation, Kase far exceeded expectations—ultimately collecting and donating an incredible 345 books.

This project is a shining example of how 4-H youth are making a difference in their communities. By identifying a meaningful need and mobilizing others to help meet it, Kase demonstrated initiative, compassion, and leadership. Kase's Little Library embodies the 4-H spirit of service, reminding us all of the positive impact young people can have when they are empowered to lead with heart, head, hands, and health.





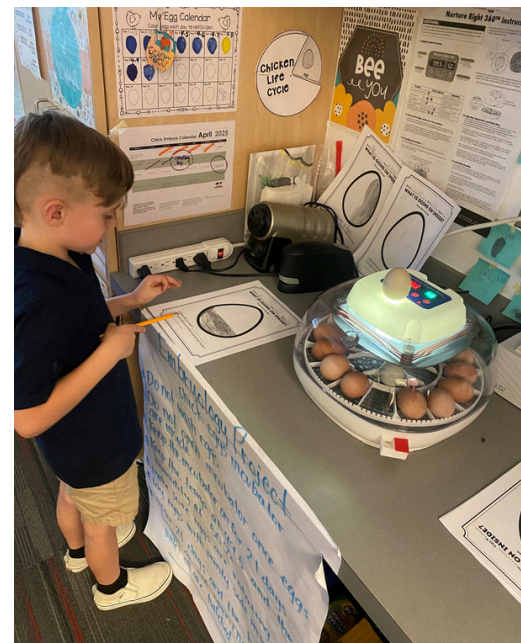
OSU EXTENSION
**OKLAHOMA COUNTY
4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

Spring Chickens!

This spring, the Oklahoma County 4-H Embryology Program brought hands-on science learning to nearly 800 students across 37 classrooms in five school districts. Through this immersive experience, students observed the full life cycle of a chick right in their classrooms.

Each class received fertilized eggs, incubators, and easy-to-follow materials to guide them through the 21-day process. One highlight was the candling lesson, where students used light to observe embryo development inside the egg, connecting science concepts to real-time biological change. Throughout the project, students took responsibility for monitoring temperature, humidity, and egg rotation, reinforcing key science standards through active learning.

Hatch day was an exciting and memorable moment, inspiring curiosity and a deeper understanding of life sciences. For many students, this program provided their first meaningful experience with agricultural science and sparked interest in continued STEM learning.





**OKLAHOMA COUNTY
EXTENSION**

4-H State Conference and Mental Wellness

4-H educators from across the state traveled to Broken Bow for their annual conference. The state conference is a time for professional development, discovering new programs to serve the youth of Oklahoma and to recognize outstanding service through the presentation of awards.

Youth Mental Health Specialist, Danyelle Kuss, offered workshops related to meditation and how to use fidget tools to support neurodiverse students in 4-H clubs and programs. She also received the 2024 Search for Excellence in Teen Programming Award for working as part of the team that supported 4-H youth in hosting and planning a Healthy Living Summit.

To continue furthering mental wellness efforts in 4-H programming, nine 4-H educators and two community members were trained in the Cope-Able Program. A program designed to educate middle school students in healthy ways of coping through game play.





**OKLAHOMA COUNTY
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Schools Out for Summer

The 2024-25 school session ended and 899 students in Oklahoma County were taught valuable lessons on nutrition and physical activity through 33 programming events provided by Nutrition Education Assistants (NEAs).

Mid-Del Schools

Barnes
Cleveland Bailey
Country Estates
Del City
Epperly Heights
Midwest City
Parkview
Pleasant Hill
Ridgecrest
Schwartz
Soldier Creek
Tinker
Townsend

Oklahoma City PS

Cleveland Elem
Fillmore
Quail Creek
Willow Brook

Santa Fe South

Hills (all grades) and Shidler (all grades)

After School Recreational Centers

Willa Johnson Rec Center

Homeschool Programs

Peppers Ranch

Harrah PS

Harrah





**OKLAHOMA COUNTY
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Master Food Preserver Training

From May 27–29, the inaugural Master Food Preserver Training was held at the Oklahoma County Extension Conference Center. This new, statewide initiative welcomed 22 Family & Consumer Sciences (FCS) Educators, including Oklahoma County's own Taylor Conner, who also serves on the program's state committee.

The comprehensive three-day training introduced participants to various methods of safe, home food preservation, including freezing, dehydrating, pressure canning, water bath canning, steam canning, and fermentation. Taylor Conner led the fermentation portion of the training, providing in-depth instruction to fellow educators.

The Master Food Preserver Program was developed to equip Extension volunteers with research-based food preservation knowledge, enabling them to support FCS educators in delivering community programming. A second training, open to the public, is planned for fall 2025.





**OKLAHOMA COUNTY
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Scissortail Park Hosts Compost Festival



Mason Huddleston, Oklahoma County OSU Extension Urban Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator, was a guest speaker at the Compost Festival held at Scissortail Park Saturday, May 10th.

Mason used his own personal worm bin, which was made from three 5-gallon buckets, to show compost enthusiasts how easy it is to produce high quality compost in a small home or apartment. He also demonstrated how to compost using a much larger worm bin.

This event allowed Mason to interact with several hundred individuals, ranging in age from young children to adults. All of them enjoyed playing with worms and valued the information on composting.





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 Galura - 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 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



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