Office of Child Care
and Family Resources
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON

BADGER BUZZ

Photo by Perri Moran / UW–Madison

April Updates & Events for UW Parents

Spring is in full swing, and we've packed this newsletter with some great resources for UW families! Join us for our free "Parenting as a Team" class, explore our fun activity e-book for family time, and find ways to celebrate Earth Day this April. Plus, we're calling for nominations for the OCCFR Award for Outstanding Student Parent Support award—student parents can recognize a faculty or staff member who's made a difference in their academic success.

Important Dates:

April 5-11: **Week of the Young Child**

April 14: **Summer 2025 CCTAP application** opens. Open to parenting students with children up to 12 years old.

April 25: Deadline for students to submit a nomination for the **OCCFR Award for Outstanding Student Parent Support** to recognize commitment to creating a parent-friendly campus.

That's So Punny!

What do clouds wear under their shorts?

Scroll to the end to find out!

Parenting as a Team Part 1 & 2

In this 2-part workshop, you will learn to identify common roadblocks that interfere with working as a team, especially if you and your partner have different parenting styles.

In this session we will cover some key communication skills so that your discussions around parenting will be less tense, we will discuss the importance of being “on the same page” (the answer may surprise you!), and you’ll get some concrete tools for becoming partners in parenting.

Part 1: Wednesday, April 2
Part 2: Wednesday, April 9
12:00 PM-1:15 PM
Free | Virtual class

Register Today!

Wax Paper Stained Glass Art

Materials

- Wax paper
- Tissue paper in various colors
- Glue stick or watered-down glue with a paintbrush
- Tape
- Scissors (optional)
- String for hanging (optional)

Instructions

1. Cut a piece of wax paper as your base and tape it down to the table.
2. Tear or cut tissue paper into pieces.
3. Apply a thin layer of glue to the wax paper and place the tissue paper onto the wax paper.
4. Overlap tissue paper pieces to create interesting color mixing effects.
5. Allow it to dry, then hang the artwork in a window to see the colors light up.

Play Ideas

Color Hunt: Have children find objects around the room that match the colors they used in their artwork.
Shape Sorting: Introduce a game where children pick tissue paper shapes from a box and name them before placing them on the wax paper.
Creative Storytelling: Encourage kids to create a story about what their stained glass represents—perhaps it’s a magical forest or a colorful rainbow path.

What Your Child is Learning

Color Mixing
By overlapping tissue paper, children see how primary colors combine to form secondary colors.

Spatial A
Arranging pieces c teaches concept layering, and

Fine Motor Skills
Cutting or tearing tissue paper helps improve precision and control.

How This Activity Supports Develop

- Enhances **visual discrimination skills.**
- Encourages **exploration of how colors interact**.
- Strengthens **small hand muscles needed for writin**

Free Activity E-Book for UW parents and children!

Play is a natural and engaging way that young children learn and grow. Through play, children explore the world around them, develop essential life skills, and establish social connections.

Check out this free e-book created by OCCFR director and early childhood educator Cigdem Unal! Filled with creative ideas using household items, these activities are designed to develop fine-motor skills, promote problem-solving, encourage creativity, and foster social-emotional growth.

Stay tuned for more activity books to come!

Let's get creative!

Call for Nominations! OCCFR Award for Outstanding Student Parent Support

Calling all student parents! Help us **recognize a faculty or staff member who has created a welcoming and supportive experience for parenting students** in their classroom, lab, or other learning environment. Submit your nomination by April 25.

Learn More & Nominate

Earth-to-Kids: Family-friendly Earth Day events and activities in Madison!

Earth Day is on April 22nd and there are a handful of happenings in the Madison area! Check out our blog post to learn about how you can take care of our home planet this Earth Day.

Learn More

Photo: Bryce Richter/UW-Madison

Kids Listen Podcast Directory

Does your family love to listen to podcasts, but hate sifting through options to find recordings that are kid-friendly? Browse the Kids Listen directory to discover podcasts by age or interest.

Learn More

UPCOMING FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENTS

We Make: Bead Creations
Apr 9, 4:30-5:30 PM
Hawthorne Library

Art for Little Ones
Apr 10, 9:30-10:15 AM
Pinney Library

Just Between Friends - Clothing Consignment
Apr 10-12, varying times
The Tributary

Lil' Badger Consignment Sale
Apr 11-13, varying times
Monona Community Center

Family Fun Night
Apr 11, 5:30-8:00 PM
Warner Park Community Recreation Center, $5/family

Curbside Breakfast with the Bunny
Apr 12, 8:00-10:30 AM
River Food Pantry

UW Engineering Expo
Apr 12, 9:00 AM-2:00 PM
UW Engineering Hall

Book Buddies - Read to a Dog
Apr 12, 9:30, 10:00, 10:35, or 11:05 AM
City Dog

Kids in the Rotunda - Whoopensocker
Apr 12, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM, 1:00 PM
Overture Center - Rotunda Stage

New Parents, Expecting Parents, & Baby Expo
Apr 13, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM
Sheraton Madison Hotel, $5/adult

Storytime for the Very Young
Apr 15, 10:00-10:30 AM
Sequoya Library

Evening Family Storytime
Apr 15, 5:30-6:30 PM
Lakeview Library

Children's African Story Hour
Apr 19, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM
Eagle Heights Community Center

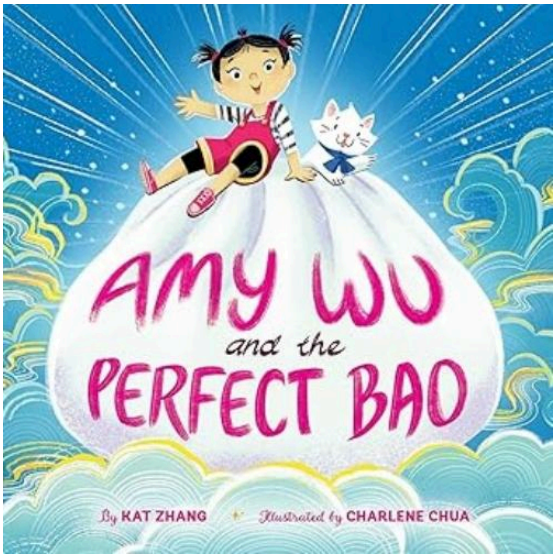
Kids in the Rotunda - Limanya Drum and Dance
Apr 19, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM, 1:00 PM
Overture Center - Rotunda Stage

Spring Egg Stravaganza
Apr 19, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM
Hometown USA Community Park - Verona

Kids in the Rotunda - The Lullaby Project
Apr 26, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM, 1:00 PM
Overture Center - Rotunda Stage

Bird & Nature Festival 2025
Apr 27, 12:00-4:00 PM
Warner Park Community Recreation Center

Spring Half-Pint Resale
May 2-4, varying times
Mandt Center - Stoughton



Book of the Month: *Amy Wu and the Perfect Bao*

Meet the funny, fierce, and fearless Amy Wu, who is determined to make a perfect bao bun today. Amy loves to make bao with her family, but it takes skill to make

Craft of the Month: Beaded Pipe Cleaner Flowers

With just pipe cleaners and colorful beads, children can bring the beauty of spring indoors! This activity supports fine motor development and eye-hand

the bao taste and look delicious. And *her* bao keep coming out all wrong. Then she has an idea that may give her a second chance…Will Amy make the perfect bao?

Read Aloud Storytime

coordination as children carefully string beads onto the pipe cleaners and shape them into flower petals and stems.

Safety Note:
Please supervise closely, especially with younger children, as small beads can pose a choking hazard. Ensure all materials are age-appropriate and used safely. **Best suited for children ages 3 and up, with adult supervision for younger children.**

Learn More

Chef's Corner

Yogurt Banana Pops

Cut bananas in half and place on a baking sheet. Put popsicle sticks into each half of the banana. Mix yogurt in a bowl until creamy, then dip each banana in. Place bananas back on the baking sheet and garnish with sprinkles. Freeze for two hours and enjoy!

Ingredients:
3 bananas cut in half
1 ½ cups vanilla Greek Yogurt
½ cup rainbow sprinkles

Recipe from *kalejunkie.com*

Answer:

What do clouds wear under their shorts?

Thunder-pants!

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