



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

# BADGER BUZZ



Photo by Brian Huynh / UW-Madison

## December Updates & Events for UW Parents

We hope the end of your semester is filled with joy, laughter, and quality time with loved ones. As we wrap up the year, we want to share some exciting updates and opportunities for you and your family, including the retirement celebration of our beloved colleague and Parent Resource Specialist, Barb Douglas. Let's dive into the latest news!

### **Important Dates:**

December 10 - [Retirement Celebration of Barb Douglas](#)

January 28 - [Raising Wisconsin's Children Conference](#)

Now-March 7 - Spring 2025 [Child Care Tuition Assistance Program \(CCTAP\) application available](#)

## **What do snowmen eat for lunch?**

*Scroll to the end to find out!*



### **Raising Healthy Eaters - FREE Virtual Parenting Lunch & Learn**

Nourishing our kids well is one of our most important jobs as parents but knowing how to strike a balance that helps kids have a healthy relationship with food as they age is hard. Add in sensory issues, allergies and pickiness, and it just gets more complicated.

In this virtual workshop we will explore how to raise intuitive eaters who know how to listen to their bodies and be adventurous and balanced when it comes to food.

**Friday, December 6  
12:00-1:15 PM**

*Open to UW employees & students,  
and spouses/partners*

[Sign me up!](#)



### **Join us as we celebrate the retirement of Barb Douglas!**

We invite you to join us in celebrating the retirement of OCCFR Parent Resource Specialist, Barb Douglas, on December 10 at the University Apartments Community Center! We are so thankful for Barb's dedicated years of service and hope you can stop by to honor her contributions to UW families and parenting students.

**Tuesday, December 10  
2:00-4:00 PM  
University Apartments Community  
Center in Eagle Heights, Room 139  
RSVP optional, drop-ins welcome.**

And don't forget to post a message or share a family photo on [Barb's digital retirement card!](#)

[RSVP Here](#)

## **Raising Wisconsin's Children Conference**

Save the date for this free, virtual event for parents, teachers, and caregivers of children! Find supportive, practical parenting and child development information. Join us on **January 28, 2025 to unlock the power of social and emotional skills in children and teens!**

[Learn More & Register](#)



## Free Couples Counseling for UW Students through UHS

Did you know UW students can get access to couples and partner counseling? Sign up to get support in a confidential, judgment-free setting to address relationship challenges and improve communication.

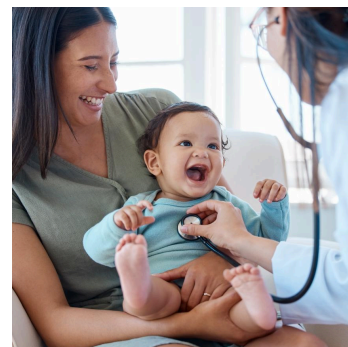
[Learn More](#)



## Calling all parents! Participate in UW child development study, receive compensation

Participants needed for the [HEALthy Brain and Child Development Study \(HBCD\)](#), the largest long-term early childhood development study in the United States! You may be eligible **if you are at least 18-years old and in your 2nd or 3rd trimester of pregnancy.**

[Learn More](#)



## Get help with housing, evictions, landlords, leases, and more.

The Tenant Resource Center is a Madison non-profit organization with an office on campus that offers services to renters and landlords, including housing counseling, mediation, eviction prevention, and legal assistance.

[Learn More](#)



*Student Parent*  
**SPOTLIGHT**



Photo courtesy of Amanda Molder

## Amanda Molder

**Major:** Life Sciences Communication, PhD

**Hometown:** California

**About me:** I am a PhD candidate in the Department of Life Sciences Communication at UW Madison, and my research examines how environmental issues, such as wildfires and climate change, are portrayed and discussed in popular media like news or documentary films, and how these stories influence public attitudes and policy decisions. My family loves spending time outside and in nature, so environmental issues are very important to us!

**Favorite place to visit with my kids:** Since we are originally from California, it has been fun to take our son to visit. On our trips, we love taking him hiking in the mountains, to the beach, to swim in the pool, and to see all of his relatives.

**What campus resource do you wish more parenting students knew about?** I hope all student parents get connected with the OCCFR and the abundance of resources and support that they provide. My partner Ned is also a PhD student and we are particularly grateful for the [CCTAP and CCAMPIS programs](#), without which we would not be able to afford childcare and finish our degrees. We have also enjoyed both the virtual [parenting classes and in-person gatherings](#) - it's nice to feel part of a community.

**UPCOMING FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENTS**

### [University Avenue Holiday Lights](#)

Dec 1-Jan 12, dusk to dawn  
University Avenue - Madison

### [Holiday Fantasy in Lights](#)

Dec 1-31, dusk to dawn  
Olin Park

### [Safe Kids Madison - Car Seat Advice](#)

Dec 4, 4:00-5:00 PM  
Goodman South Madison Library

### [CCBC Book Sale](#)

Dec 6 & 7, varying times  
UW Teacher Education Building

### [Kids in the Rotunda - Stuart Stotts](#)

Dec 7, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM, 1:00 PM  
Overture Center - Rotunda Stage

### [Henry Vilas Zoo Lights](#)

Dec 6-28, varying times  
Henry Vilas Zoo, \$10/person

### [Holiday Craft Fair](#)

Dec 7, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM  
DeForest Area Middle School

### [Madison College Hmong New Year Celebration](#)

Dec 7, 11:00 AM-4:00 PM  
Madison College

### [A Christmas Carol 2024](#)

Dec 7-22, varying times  
The Capitol Theater at Overture Center

### [HolidayFest Arts & Crafts Fair](#)

Dec 7, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM  
Warner Park Community Recreation Center

### [Children's African Story Hour - Swahili Folktales \(Kenya\)](#)

Dec 9, 4:00-5:00 PM  
Pinney Public Library

### [Family Fun Night](#)

Dec 13, 5:30-8:00 PM  
Warner Park Community Recreation Center, \$5/family

### [Kids in the Rotunda - The Handphibians](#)

Dec 14, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM, 1:00 PM  
Overture Center - Rotunda Stage

### [Book Buddies - Read to a Dog](#)

Dec 14, 9:30, 10:05, 10:35, or 11:05 AM  
City Dog

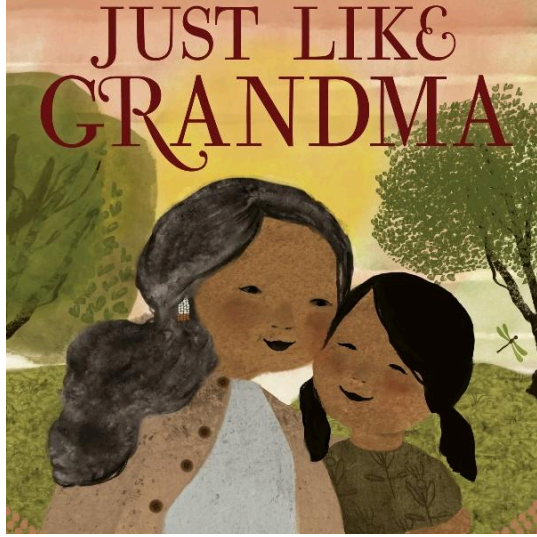
### [Storytime \(ages 5 & under\)](#)

Dec 17, 10:30-11:15 AM  
Monroe Street Library

### [Growing Voices Music Class](#)

Dec 18, 9:30-10:30 AM  
Madison Public Library - Central

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### Book of the Month: *Just Like Grandma*

Becca loves spending time with Grandma. Every time Becca says, "Let me try," Grandma shows her how to make something beautiful. Whether they are beading moccasins, dancing like the most beautiful butterflies, or practicing basketball together, Becca knows that, more than anything, she wants to be *just like Grandma*. And as the two share their favorite activities, Becca discovers something surprising about Grandma.

[Read Aloud Storytime](#)



### Craft of the Month: Marshmallow Snowman

This marshmallow snowman craft is a delightful winter activity for children! It helps develop fine motor skills as kids pinch, press, and place marshmallows and decorations on the paper. The craft also encourages creativity, improves hand eye-coordination, and provides a fun (and tasty!) sensory experience. Perfect for little hands, it's a fun and festive way to spark children's creativity and grow!

[Learn More](#)



## Chef's Corner

### Broccoli Cheese Bites

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Grease a mini muffin tin. Combine all ingredients and mix well. Separate the mixture evenly into a muffin tin and bake for 15 minutes, until golden. Let cool for 5 minutes and enjoy!

#### Ingredients:

- 3 cups finely chopped broccoli florets
- 1 ½ cups shredded cheddar cheese
- 3 large eggs, beaten
- 3 tbsp flour
- 3 tbsp milk
- 1 tsp salt
- ½ tsp pepper
- ¾ tsp garlic powder

Recipe from [thrivinghomeblog.com](http://thrivinghomeblog.com)

**Answer:**

What do snowmen eat for lunch?

# Icebergers!



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