



Office of Child Care and Family Resources Monthly Newsletter

BADGERBUZZ

Discover events, resources, and activities for UW families

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Happy July—it's a hot one out there!

July is here, and if you've stepped outside lately, you know summer is not playing around. While we're all finding ways to stay cool, this month's issue is packed with good stuff to keep you and your family going strong. We're celebrating Disability Pride Month, sharing a fun craft to try at home, a recipe to keep you cool, and spotlighting the latest Read Along pick. Plus, don't miss the dates and reminders section so nothing sneaks up on you this month.

Dates & Reminders

- **July 20:** Fall **CCTAP** application opens
- **August 3:** Fall **KidsKare** application opens



ECHC is back!

Early Childhood Health Consultation services are back for 2026! ECHC offers free webinars, **podcasts**, and updated resources, as well as health consultations for early childhood educators and centers. Check out the **upcoming free webinar** for educators about vaccine schedules. The webinar is **pending approval** for 1.0 hours of continuing education credit through the WI Registry.

[Read More](#)

Disability Pride Month & resources for special needs

July is Disability Pride Month and we'd like to share a resource that's available year-round. OCCFR's Family Resource Library includes a Child Development & Special Needs section with tools and programs for families, from early intervention services to adaptive equipment lending to parent support networks. Check it out below, and if you're local, stop by the **Disability Pride Festival** on July 25, 12–5 p.m. at Warner Park!



[Read More](#)



Ways to Save Energy in Summer

Check out MG&E's top 10 tips for saving energy during the hot summer months!

[Read More](#)

Child Care Openings

The following openings within the [UW–Madison Child Care and Education System](#) are current as of **6/29/26**.

Eagle's Wing Child Care

- Openings in High Flyers summer camp program for July/August

Waisman Early Childhood Program

- (3) spots starting 9/1 for age 2
- (3) spots starting 9/1 for age 3

Bernie's Place

- (1) spot, 3-5 mornings/week, age 2
- (3) spots, 3-5 mornings/week, age 3

Creative Learning Preschool

- Full- and part-time openings starting in September for children born between 9/2022 and 8/2023
- Contact CLP for current summer care availability

Isthmus Montessori Academy

- (2) spots starting August in 4K program

Little Chicks Learning Academy

- (5) spots for children born in 2024
- (2) spots for children born in 2023
- (4) spots for children born in 2022

Meeting House Nursery School

Full- and part-time openings!

- Spots for age 2
- Spots for age 3
- Spots for free afternoon 4K

Middleton Early Childhood Center

- Spots for infants available now
- Spots for infants available in January

Preschool of the Arts

- (1) spot starting 9/8 in 4K program
- (2) spots starting 9/8 for age 3
- (3) spots starting 9/8 for age 2.5
- (2) spots starting 9/8 for age 2
- (1) spot starting February for age 2

The Playing Field Midtown

- (1) spot starting September in 4K program

July Family-Friendly Events

Special Events

Family Nature Walk

Sunday, July 5, 1:30 - 2:30 pm
UW Arboretum

Kids in the Rotunda: Wendy & DB's Blues Beats for Little Feet

Saturday, July 11, 9:30 - 10:30 am
Overture Center

Recurring Events

MCM Free Thursday Evenings

July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
4:00 - 8:00 pm
Madison Children's Museum

Dance Around the World

July 6, 13, 20, 27
10:30 - 11:00 am
Hawthorne Library

Mermaid Echo & Friends at Schluter Beach

Saturday, July 11, 10:00 - 11:30 am
Schluter Beach (Monona)

Cereal Party

Saturday, July 11, 10:00 - 11:30 am
Middleton Library

Environmental Fun Fair

Saturday, July 11, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Lussier Family Heritage Center

Toddler Art

Wednesday, July 15, 10:00 - 11:00 am
Fitchburg Library

Family Nature Program: A Prairie Summer

Sunday, July 19, 1:30 - 3:30 pm
UW Arboretum

Camp Aldo Evenings: Foraging in Nature

Sunday, July 19, 5:00 - 8:00 pm
Aldo Leopold Nature Center

Movie at The Glen: Zootopia 2

Sunday, July 19, 5:00 - 8:00 pm
The Glen Golf Park

Family Fort Night

Tuesday, July 21, 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Central Library

Family Class: Butterfly Exploration

Wednesday, July 22, 8:30 - 9:30 am
Olbrich Botanical Gardens

Drive-In Movie: Cars

Friday, July 24, 2:00 - 4:00 pm
Middleton Library

Bird & Nature Adventures

Saturday, July 25, 10:00 - 11:30 am
Aldo Leopold Nature Center

Curious Critters Storytime

Monday, July 27, 10:00 - 10:45 am
Aldo Leopold Nature Center

Children's African Story Hour

July 7, 14, 21, 28
5:30 - 6:30 pm
University Apartments Community Center,
Room 135

Little Sprouts

July 7, 10, 14, 17, 21, 24, 28, 31
9:00 - 10:00 am
Olbrich Botanical Gardens

Storytime for the Very Young

July 7, 14, 21, 28
10:00 - 10:30 am
Sequoya Library

Multi-Age Storytime (5 and under)

July 8, 15, 22, 29
10:00 - 10:30 am
Pinney Library

Lakeside Kids

July 14, 21, 28
10:00 - 11:00 am
Monona Terrace

Growing Voices Music Class

July 20, 27
10:30 - 11:15 am
Meadowridge Library

Nature Everywhere Madison

July 23, 30
10:30 - 11:30 am
Lakeview Library

Book of the Month**Craft of the Month**



Just Ask

In *Just Ask*, Justice Sonia Sotomayor celebrates the different abilities kids have. Using her own experience, Justice Sotomayor writes about children with all sorts of challenges—and looks at the special powers those kids have as well. As the kids work together, asking questions of each other along the way, this book encourages readers to *Just Ask* when we have questions about someone who is different from us.

[Read Aloud Storytime](#)

Handprint Cacti

Here's a cute and prickly craft idea: a cactus made from a child's handprint. You can write a message on the back and use it as a greeting card, pin it up on a window ledge like a real plant, or hang it on your fridge as art. Indoor crafts can be great on the hot or long summer days. The best things about handprint crafts? Kiddos can be very involved in the process, and it's an easy craft they can be proud of.

[Learn More](#)

Chef's Corner: Healthy Fruit Ice Pops

There's nothing like enjoying homemade fruit popsicles on a hot day. Warm weather means beautiful ripe fruit starts to appear at the local market. With so many choices, there are so many ice pop variations to choose from!

Peach Strawberry Yogurt Pops:

- 3 cups strawberries, pureed
- 3 cups peaches, peeled & pureed
- 2 tablespoons honey, divided
- $\frac{2}{3}$ cup yogurt

Orange Mango Coconut Pops:

- 4 cups mango, divided
- 2 cups coconut milk, whisked & divided
- 3 tablespoons orange juice
- 3 tablespoons honey

[See more variations here!](#)

Instructions:

- Blend the fruits of your choice with some juice or coconut water and a little honey until smooth.
- Pour into an ice pop mold, layering between flavors if desired.
- Add in a few fruit chunks for an extra bite.
- Place in freezer until solid, then run warm water over the outside of the mold to remove pops. Enjoy!

Recipe from jessicagavin.com



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