

ST CROIX COUNTY 4-H Communicator



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

AUGUST 2025

Dear 4-H Families,

As my interim term as St. Croix County 4-H Program Educator comes to a close on August 31st, I want to express my sincerest gratitude for an incredible experience these past nine months.



Coming from Minnesota, I was initially nervous about navigating the differences of Wisconsin 4-H - and believe me, there are many! But your warmth, patience, and open embrace of change made all the difference. To 4-H leaders, volunteers, and youth: **Thank you.** My time in St. Croix has been filled with joy, growth, and valuable challenges, and I truly feel I've found a home in this program.

In September, I plan to return to the National Park Service to continue my career as a park ranger. I wish the St. Croix County 4-H program continued success and look forward to seeing many of our 4-H youth grow into bright community leaders.

Nicole Cash

Hello 4-H Families,



I am so excited to return to St. Croix County! I have spent the last three years on a special assignment with the Wisconsin State 4-H Program. This unique opportunity has given me the chance to work with educators across the state in developing and improving our positive youth development

programs. I will be returning to the office on September 2, 2025. I look forward to connecting and working with all of the St. Croix 4-H community and meeting new 4-H leaders and members. Please feel free to reach out to me anytime.
hvierling@wisc.edu

Heather Vierling

Inside this Issue

Calendar	2
Club Information	5
Leader News	8
4-H Committees	9
St. Croix Co. Fair	12
Friends of the Fair	18
Other News	19

4-H Pledge

"I pledge my HEAD to
clearer thinking,
my HEART to greater
loyalty,
my HANDS to larger service,
and
my HEALTH to better living,
for my club, my community,
my country, and my world."

Nicole Cash

4-H Program Educator

nicole.cash@wisc.edu

715-531-1938

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday

8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Due to community work, trainings and meetings please call ahead to our office to ensure that someone will be here to support your needs. We don't want you to make unwanted or unnecessary trips.

[St. Croix County
Extension Website](https://www.stcroixcounty4h.org/)

Calendar

August

- 4 Monthly Horse Project Meeting
- 7 YMCA Pizza Night - Camp St. Croix
- 9 Farm-City Days
- 11 Rube Goldberg Library Program
- 12 Somerset Library Reading Program
- 14 Gears, Gizmos, & Gadgets Day Camp
- 15 4-H Annual Financial Reports (AFR) Due
- 19 Leader's Association Meeting
- 21 Minnesota State Fair Begins



September

- 1 4-H Re-Enrollment Opens in 4-H Online
- 1 UWEX Office Closed - HOLIDAY
- 8 Club Award Packets Due



UW- Madison, Division of Extension Non Discrimination Policy

Periodically, UW-Madison takes steps to ensure that our partners know and understand our policy of non-discrimination. This is to remind or notify you that the University of Wisconsin Madison, Division of Extension does not discriminate in the treatment of individuals in the admission or access to its programs and activities, in the provision of services, or in employments.

Further, UW-Madison will not participate with organizations or in activities, which discriminate on the basis of any of the prohibited categories of discrimination. Categories of prohibited discrimination include: race, color, gender/sex, creed, disability, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, pregnancy, marital or parental status, arrest or conviction record, or membership in the National Guard, State Defense Force, or any other component of military services.

Consistent with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons who need materials in alternative format or other accommodation must write or call the UW-Extension contact person for the specific program or call the main telephone number of St. Croix County UW-Extension (715) 531-1930, 1960 8th Ave., Suite 140, Baldwin, WI 54002 at least 10 working days prior to the event. Individuals who need TDD/TTY access, can call 711 for relay assistance.

The University of Wisconsin Madison, Division of Extension staff in St. Croix County thanks you for collaborating with our many educational endeavors. We appreciate your support and working relationship as we provide educational programs designed to empower the diverse citizens of St. Croix County.



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UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
St. Croix County

 <https://stcroix.extension.wisc.edu>

1960 8th Ave. Suite 140
Baldwin, WI 54002
715-531-1930

 [facebook](#)

 [@instagram](#)



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

St. Croix County 4-H Quick Facts

St. Croix County has...



Youth Members

613



Adult Volunteers

141

94% of members
feel that they
belong in 4-H



St. Croix County
4-H'ers
contributed

3,496

hours of
**community
service** in 2024

Art 156

Photography 146

Cloverbuds 142

Drawing 113

Woods 105



Suburb (10-50k)

Farm

Rural
(non-farm)

City (50k+)

More than half of 4-H
members do **not** live on farms!

4-H members are....



more likely to
participate in
community
service



more likely to
set goals in
leadership



participate in
STEM
programs



be civically
engaged



more likely to
make positive
contributions
to their
community

Cloverbud Day Camp **CRITTERS & CRAWLERS**



*Up next...Gears,
Gizmos, & Gadgets*

*August 14th
9am - 3pm*

Club Information



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

4-H PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARIES!!

Rube Goldberg Challenge

Design and build a complicated machine to perform a simple task.
August 11th 11:00-12:00 Hammond Library
August 11th 4:00-5:00 Somerset Library



Ice Cream Fun

Learn about the process of how ice cream is made. Participants will make their own ice cream to enjoy using an ice cream ball.

July 7th 11:00-12:00 Hammond Library
July 7th 4:00-5:00 Somerset Library

Lego Robotics

Learn about building and programming robots using LEGOS.

July 14th 11:00-12:00 Hammond Library
July 14th 4:00-5:00 Somerset Library
July 21st 11:00-12:00 Hammond Library



850 Davis Street
Hammond, WI 54015
715-796-2281
hammondlibraryprograms@gmail.com



Baldwin
PUBLIC LIBRARY

400 Cedar St
Baldwin, WI 54002
715-684-2813
staff@baldwinlibrary.org



SOMERSET
PUBLIC LIBRARY

208 Hud Street
Somerset, WI 54025
715-247-5228
somersepl@somersetlibrary.org

4-H Library Events

4-H is partnering with county libraries this summer to plan new programs for community members. Throughout the summer, there will be a variety of activities at the Hammond, Baldwin, and Somerset libraries. Mark your calendar for the following dates to join us for these upcoming events and more! Everyone is welcome and fun is guaranteed!

Food Bank Summer Fun(draiser)

By: Carly Brown, President of Rolling Hills 4-H Club

Have you ever wondered what a food bank is? A food bank is a non-profit organization that collects, stores, and distributes food to local food pantries and other hunger relief programs such as the backpack program.

Did you know that there is a local food bank that supports our surrounding area? The St Croix Valley Food Bank is a non-profit organization that serves Polk, Pierce, St. Croix, and Burnett counties in western Wisconsin. They are always looking for donated food items as well as volunteers to help fill orders and pack or distribute food. There is currently a need for the following items: **rice, beans, pasta, canned veggies and soup.**

If you are looking to do something fun with your club, this activity supports the community while also bringing a little fun competition and team building to your Club. Please consider discussing how you can help the St. Croix Valley Food Bank at your next meeting.

To find out more - email endhunger@stcroixvalleyfoodbank.org or visit their website: <https://www.stcroixvalleyfoodbank.org>. St. Croix Valley Food Bank, Inc. is located at 1231 Industrial St. #400, Hudson, WI 54016






UW-MADISON EXTENSION

GEARS, GADGETS, & GIZMOS!

Summer Day Camp **Grades K-3**

Charge up your imagination at Gears, Gadgets, & Gizmos Day Camp! Campers will build their own working circuits, learning how electricity powers our world. They'll launch pneumatic stomp rockets and create hydraulic lift crafts, understanding the amazing force of air and water. And they'll explore the invisible magic of magnets. Get ready to build, launch, and create your way to a summer of fun!

 August 14th, 2024
 9:00am - 3:00pm
 Millpond Park, Baldwin

REGISTER HERE!



PIZZA NIGHT

on the Farm

the Y CAMP ST. CROIX

June 12	4-8PM	Children's Night
June 26	4-8PM	Mealtime & Storytelling
July 10	4-8PM	Dog Night
July 24	4-8PM	Ukelele Choir & Canning
August 7	4-8PM	Bee & Art Night
August 21	4-8PM	Goat & Dirt Night
October 4	2-7PM	Fall Harvest Fest

LOCAL PIZZA INGREDIENTS WAGON RIDES WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

St. Croix County 4-H Leaders Association Meeting

Tuesday, August 19
@ 6:30 pm

UW-Extension Office

Agenda will be sent out
prior to the meeting.
Zoom available upon
request



Reminder: 4-H Event Insurance

This insurance will cover all participants (youth/adult, 4-H and non 4-H). The cost is \$0.30/person/day. Please fill out this form to request insurance a week before your event:

<https://forms.gle/Pk9S1xxmXfHmYtgE8> or email Laura @ laura.hinz@wisc.edu

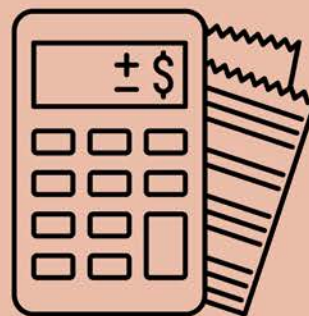
Event that require additional insurance include:

- ☐ Horseback Riding ☐ Mountain Biking
- ☐ Shooting Sports ☐ Downhill Skiing/Snowboarding
- ☐ Go-Karts ☐ Bounce House or Moonwalk
- ☐ Challenge Course or Zip Line
- ☐ Fun Run/Walks ☐ Tractors
- ☐ Roadside Clean-Up
- ☐ Sledding/Tobogganing/Tubing
- ☐ ATVs or UTVs
- ☐ Waterfront: Paddle Sports
- ☐ Waterfront: Swimming



4-H Financials / Charters

It's that time of year again. July 1 marks the beginning of our new 4-H fiscal year. Please remember to complete your 2024-2025 financials. **AFR's are due at the St. Croix County Extension office by August 15th.**



1. Wisconsin 4-H Clubs & Groups [Annual Financial Report](#)
2. Wisconsin 4-H Clubs & Groups [Audit Checklist](#)
3. A copy of the checkbook and/or savings registry covering July 1 – June 30
4. A copy of the bank statement ending June 30 or July 1 for each account. Any differences between the bank statement(s) and the ending balance reported must be reconciled and the reconciliation must be uploaded with the Annual Financial Report.
5. A current inventory of land, buildings, property, or project equipment with individual values of \$2,000 or greater.
6. Monthly Treasurer's Reports for 4-H Clubs or Groups with annual income greater or equal to \$20,000.

2023-2024 4-H Club Award Packets

Club award packets will be sent out to club leaders (via email) on August 6th. If you would like this mailed to you, please contact Nicole ASAP. Once you receive the packet, please take a minute to review it, as some of the awards have changed. The awards committee has been working hard to simplify this application process in the hopes that more clubs apply for county awards. All club award packets are due to Nicole or Heather (email or snail mail) by **September 8th**. Awards will be ordered and delivered to clubs in October. If you have questions on anything related to the Club Award Packet, please contact the Extension office, 715-531-1938.

REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTS FROM ST. CROIX COUNTY 4-H LEADERS ASSOCIATION

To request reimbursement of an expense your club or committee has incurred - please use this form <https://stcroix.extension.wisc.edu/files/2023/12/4-H-Request-Reimbursement-Form.pdf> found on the Extension website.

Return to the SCC 4-H Leaders Association
Email: scc4hleaders@gmail.com
Mail: 1960 8th Ave, Suite 140; Baldwin, WI 54002

NEWS TO SHARE??

Do you have news to share in the St. Croix County 4-H Communicator? Write up a short article and we will put it in the next communicator. Share important dates and information for projects and events. Keep everyone informed on the happenings in 4-H!

Send your articles to Laura at laura.hinz@wisc.edu



Thank You from the Food Stand

The 4-H Food Stand Committee would like to thank the clubs and individuals that worked in the food stand. (Dry Run Go Getters, Sunnyside Shamrocks, Baldwin Wide Awake, Roberts Ribbon Reapers, Riverside, Lone Pine, North Country, Springbrook, Tri River Voyagers, Glen Hills Climbers, Rolling Hills, Double Good, Hayestown and the Rabbit Committee). We had a very successful year, we ran out of just about everything by Sunday. The clubs that came to clean, you are very much appreciated! A big shout out to all the grants and donations we received. We had grants from Thrivent and Kwik Trip. Donations from Hiawatha National Bank, Nilssens, AMPI, Synergy Cooperative, Culver's and Advanced Foods.

We will be meeting at the end of August and your checks will be mailed at that time.

If you are interested in joining our committee, please email the 4-H office or dstevens.gstevens@gmail.com.

Heather and Alpha, Ashley, Abigail, Dennis and Mari, Steve, Beth, Tryn, John And Nikki, Gary and Debbie, Michael, Grace, Nicholas and Garrett.

4-H Committees



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

Horse Project News

Upcoming 2025 Youth Horse Project Meetings - Ag Center

Youth Meeting 7:00 / all project meeting 7:30

- Monday Aug 4th



Special Events - Ag Center unless otherwise noted

- Monday Oct 6th, 6:00 pm - Annual year end banquet and annual meeting

If you have any questions on the St. Croix County Youth Horse Project, please email stcroixcountyhorseproject@gmail.com

Livestock Committee

Meeting:

Tuesday, Aug 12th
7 pm

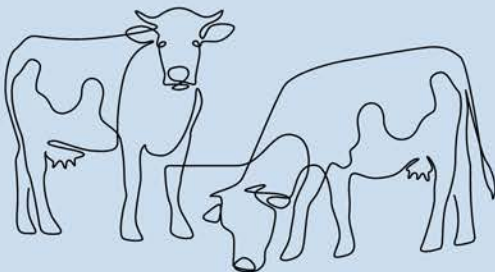
St. Croix County
Fairgrounds -
Scale House



Dairy Committee Meeting:

Monday, Aug 18th
7 pm

UW-Extension Office



The St. Croix County 4-H Senior Dairy Judging Team traveled to Scotland to judge internationally from June 18th - July 2nd.
Congratulations!



Thank you all for another successful fair!

From delicious 4-H malts, to fun craft activities, to amazing livestock shows, 4-H has made an impact at the county fair. You all should be very proud of the work that you've put into your projects throughout the year. Keep it up!



There are many projects that were left behind. If you have not claimed your project, entry tag, or ribbon after the conclusion of the fair, please stop by the UW-Extension office before **August 5th at noon**. **Projects that are not claimed by this time will be discarded.**



Shout out to the 4-H Senior Dairy Judging Team for raising the 4-H flag on opening day!



Thank You!



A special thank you to all of the youth and adult volunteers that spent time at the 4-H Activities Table!

Fair goers were able to learn about the 4-H program, participate in trivia, create their own button, and more!

Friends of the St. Croix County Fairgrounds

News Flashes:

1. **We have received several grants this year including the latest “Operation Roundup” from the St. Croix Electric Cooperative**
2. The 2025 Maytober Sale will again be hosted as an online auction by Smith Auctions, the close date is November 5th at 6p.m. **A special thank you to Jody Close, Smith Auctions!**
3. Wanted – 4-H clubs who can use some extra financial support for their projects, see details below.
4. We have launched two 50:50 Raffles – see details below.

Maytober Donations & Bidding information: Maytober is truly a “soup to nuts” auction conducted by Smith Auctions with the seller’s fee donated – if it sells for a \$1.00 Friends receives a \$1.00. We need help on two fronts: 1. Donations of literally anything that has value & 2. Willing bidders. To register to bid, simply go to the Smith Auctions web site and follow the instructions. If you have anything to donate, please contact Chris Libbey (651) 247-0395 or Terry Mitchell (715) 619-0442. Donations of used ag equipment are great; for large items, we are also open to consignment. **Proceeds will be used towards retiring the loan on the Tiffany Creek Shelter.**

Club Development Grants: Friends has a budget of \$1,000 to support Club Development Grants. Grants can be used for literally any project that helps the clubs thrive; service projects to recreation.

We are accepting applications through the end of September. Our goal is to help enrich programming for the 2025-2026 Club Year. Contact Steve Smart at desscs51@baldwin-telecom.net to receive an application.

Raffle Details:

- 50:50 Cash Raffle #1
- Limited to 100 chances
- \$100/chance
- One prize of up to \$1,000, if all 100 chances are sold

- 50:50 Cash Raffle #2
- Limited to 100 chances
- \$20/chance
- One prize of up to \$1,000, if all 100 chances are sold
- **Sold out - thank you!**

- Drawings to be August 16th at the conclusion of the Saturday night performance of the St. Croix Valley PRCA Rodeo
- Ticket sales to be handled by the Friends Board Call (651) 247-0395 for direction to your nearest Board Member

We need to continue to be creative in our fund raising efforts. Please feel free to contact Friends’ Board Members with your suggestions – all ideas are welcome. We also welcome new members to our team –if interested, contact Chris Libbey at (651) 247-0395



Rodeo Roadside Signs 2025

Each group providing a roadside sign that meets all of the following requirements will receive 4 complimentary tickets to the St Croix Valley PRCA Rodeo for either performance on August 15 or 16th

Requirements for the roadside sign

Size: minimum 4 ft by 8 ft

Visible location and placed on a well-traveled road

Each sign must include:

1. Rodeo dates: August 15 and August 16, 2025
2. Name: St Croix Valley PRCA rodeo
3. Website: gorodeo.org
4. Times: Gate open 4:30, Rodeo starts 7:30
5. Location: St Croix County Fairgrounds

Register your sign with Patti Robertson at
pattirobertson13@gmail.com.

Sign must be in place by August 1st and photo and location information sent to Patti Robertson by August 5th. Signs are to be removed by August 30th.

**SAVE THE
DATE
SAVE OUR
WATERS**

Join the Search

SNAPSHOT DAY

August 9, 2025

Learn more & register: www.wateractionvolunteers.org/events

Coordinated by UW-Madison Division of Extension in partnership with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and local partners.

Snapshot Day 2025

August 9, 2025

8:30am to 12:30pm (time may vary slightly by location)

Join the statewide search for aquatic invasive species! Snapshot Day is a statewide, one-day event connecting volunteers, water lovers, and local conservation groups in a search for aquatic invasive species (AIS). You can help protect Wisconsin's rivers, lakes, and wetlands from these invasive plants and animals that may negatively impact habitat, wildlife, recreation and health. This event is coordinated in partnership with UW-Madison Division of Extension, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, local partners, and YOU!

We hope you'll join the search and help protect Wisconsin's waters!



WELCOME KAERA!

HDR Educator in St. Croix County

Family Engagement and
Relationships



ABOUT KAERA

Kaera has been working with children and families in different capacities for the past 8 years.

- Most recently, she enjoyed working for St. Croix County, uplifting her community.
- Has a degree in social work from UW Milwaukee
- Loves spending time with her animals!



Human Development &
Relationships Institute
DIVISION OF EXTENSION
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Family Engagement and Relationships Classes

June, July, & August 2025

All classes are virtual unless noted.



Everyday Parenting

Raising Wisconsin's Children

Join free parenting classes each month! These classes offer practical, research-based ideas to support your parenting and help children grow. Topics include screens and media plans, talking about scary issues, and child led play.

June 19, July 17, August 21 | 1 PM

Focus on Fathers

Hey dads! Your role matters! Join us for discussions on parenting, family life and how to handle modern challenges. A space for dads to support each other.

June 10, July 8, August 12 | 6 PM

VISIT OUR CLASS CALENDAR TO SIGN UP



USE THE QR CODE OR THE LINK BELOW TO SIGN UP!

<https://parenting.extension.wisc.edu/class-calendar>

To make sure everyone has a great experience, we limit the number of spots in our classes. Registration is required.



Human Development & Relationships Institute
DIVISION OF EXTENSION
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Family Transitions

Resilient Co-Parenting

Join us for ongoing support for your co-parenting journey. Topics include healthy coping during transitions and healthy boundaries.

June 5, August 7 | 7:00 PM

Parents Forever

Learn how to lessen the impact of divorce on children, co-parent without conflict, and improve self-care to foster resilience.

June 10, 17, 23 | July 10 | August 8, 13, 23, 30
Times vary

Strong Couples

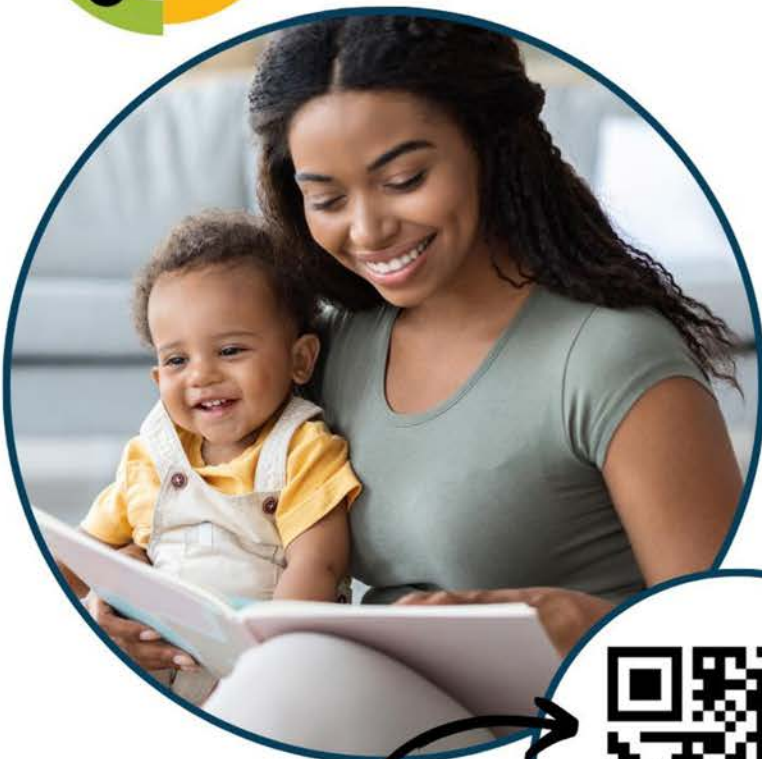
Six self-paced online modules and five coaching calls that teach you skills to improve your romantic relationship. Free and backed by research!

Visit: parenting.extension.wisc.edu/strong-couples



JUST IN TIME

Parenting●●●●● Newsletter



**SCAN TO
SUBSCRIBE.
OR VIEW AT
JITP.INFO.**



**Want more information ? Contact your
local Extension Educator!**

**Kaera Aubart
1960 8th Ave, Suite 140
Baldwin, Wisconsin 54002
aubart@wisc.edu
(608) 712-1875**

Parenting is a big job and we want to help. We're happy to offer you a free monthly electronic newsletter, Just in Time Parenting (JITP). In it you will find helpful articles about parenting each month.

Each issue includes:

- Easy to use guides on how your child is developing
- Tips on raising a healthy, happy child
- Tools for solving common parenting problems
- Strategies for coping with the challenges of raising children
- Links to podcasts, videos, and other resources
- Commercial free—no toy or product ads
- Research based and written by experts who are parents themselves!

99% of readers view the information in Just in Time Parenting JUST AS or MORE useful than information from other parenting sources.



16
The Just in Time Parenting Survey was designed and administered to subscribers in Wisconsin and participation was voluntary.



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FAMILY ENGAGEMENT & RELATIONSHIPS



JUST IN TIME Parenting



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FAMILY ENGAGEMENT & RELATIONSHIPS

Finding reliable parenting information and advice on the web can be overwhelming! How do you know what you can trust - especially when you are busy and there's just a little time? Just in Time Parenting is a free parenting newsletter that is delivered by email and specific to a child's age and needs. They are designed so that information that's relevant to your family is automatically delivered to you just in time!

"I especially like the suggestion to play with your baby at every age bracket"
-Wisconsin Resident

Why should parents choose Just in Time Parenting?

- Timely delivery directly to you
- Available in English and Spanish
- Access to full-color PDFs for printing and sharing
- Links to podcasts, videos, and other resources
- Commercial free - no toy or product ads

NEWSLETTERS AVAILABLE BY AGE:

PRENATAL: 1st Trimester, 2nd Trimester and 3rd Trimester

NEWBORN: Newborn Baby

THE 1ST YEARS: Month 1, Month 2, Month 3, Month 4, Month 5, Month 6, Month 7, Month 8, Month 9, Month 10, Month 11, Month 12

THE 2ND AND 3RD YEARS: Months 13-14, Months 15-16, Months 17-18, Months 19-20, Months 21-22, Months 23-24, Months 25-26, Months 27-28, Months 29-30, Months 31-32, Months 33-34, Months 35-36

THE 4TH AND 5TH YEARS: Months 37-38, Months 39-40, Months 41-42, Months 43-44, Months 45-46, Months 47-48, Months 49-50, Months 51-52, Months 53-54, Months 55-56, Months 57-58, Months 59-60

- Registration information will not be shared with anyone else.
 - Individual/ Family does NOT need to be a resident of the county or Wisconsin to participate in any of these programs. • •
- Multiple adults per household can sign up.
Feel free to sign up for each child. For example, if you have a 3-year-old and newborn you can receive an age appropriate newsletter for each.

Now Available
in Spanish and
English!

"I really enjoyed learning about age milestones and activities to help my children grow in the Just in Time Parenting series."
-Wisconsin Resident,
Mother of 4 children