

Cloverbud and Vegetable Project Kids Garden Project Fun Day

June 3, 2017 - 9:30 am – 12 Noon

Prepared by Cherie Hafeman, 4-H Cloverbud Leader

The 4-H Vegetable Project and Cloverbud Youth arrived and met together for the American and 4-H Pledges. There were 12 youth registered, 5 Cloverbuds and 5 Vegetable Project youth attended. There was 2 parents, 3 grandmothers, 2 Master Gardeners and 2-4-H Adult Cloverbud Leaders, along with 2 Master Gardeners. We did introductions and talked about what they would be doing and then the five Vegetable Project Youth went to the Community Gardens to begin their learning experience with Dan Marzu - UW-Extension Agriculture Educator; Melissa Yates - UW-Extension Food Wise Educator and Master Gardener Ann Stoeckmann.



I provided the Cloverbuds with a garden word search, a garden word puzzle and a garden tool identification sheet to work on while they were waiting for others to arrive and to take home. I also provided a sheet with pictures of the vegetables and typewritten tabs so they could identify and spell the vegetables we were planting. The Cloverbuds were allowed to select which vegetable garden stake they wanted to paint. We talked about how many of them currently garden and what they like to plant. We also talked about what you can do if you don't have a garden to plant in and how you can plant vegetable seeds in pots/containers. We then provided crayons, colored pencils, some stickers, googly eyes, and paint to decorate their wooden garden stakes and they went to work. We continued the gardening conversation as we painted the stakes.

While they were painting we also talked some more about what we can do with all these vegetables when they are ready to harvest.



We discussed having another session together before the Fair to learn how to exhibit their vegetables.



As they got done with their Community Garden Stakes, we seal-sprayed to dry and the youth were allowed to paint another stake of their choice to take home.

We then discussed and planted the package of lettuce seeds and



helped them plant their pots. They could decorate the pot, water their lettuce with their water spray bottle. They could also decorate their spray bottles. We ran out of time so we just made sure they put their names on their bottles to take home with their planted lettuce pots and explained how to

care for them.

We then washed our hands, took a quick restroom break and gathered at the front door, where they picked up their painted garden stake and we walked together to the Community Garden.





At the garden we joined Master Gardeners Ann Stoeckmann and Betty Ann Tubbin, Melissa Yates and Dan Marzu. They took the Cloverbuds around and showed them what was happening in the Community garden and talked about what was planted. Dan Marzu also showed the youth what the Vegetable Project youth planted and showed them the straw bale plantings.



The youth then washed their hands and Melissa Yates, FoodWise Nutrition Educator offered a demonstration program on the 5210 Program. She brought samples of the vegetables we were planting for snacks and crackers were also offered with some grapes and juice. Each family was given a dried fruit snack packet and a 5210 book mark to take home.





After the snack, Ann Stoeckmann, Dan Marzu, along with one of the Vegetable Project youth demonstrated what and how they would be planting. The Cloverbuds were each given a section of garden to plant to put in carrots, beets, cabbage and Kohlrabi, some tomatoes if they chose to.



When they had everything planted we took a picture as a group with their garden plots and decorated garden stakes and they placed their garden stakes in their plot. We took lots of pictures to share of them working and planting and putting their stakes in the ground. It was really a great morning. The Youth seemed to really like it. 😊





We are going to try and have another get together before the Fair if possible to talk and demonstrate how to show vegetables at the Fair.