

4-H is an opportunity to try new activities and learn new skills. If you're looking for an idea to pass the time and want to try something new, check out the projects below. 4-H Friday will be created weekly with a variety of projects and skill levels highlighted each week. Please remember the social distancing and safer at home guidelines while doing these projects. If you would like to take a picture of you or your family doing one of these 4-H projects, feel free to email it to me at [penny.tank@wisc.edu](mailto:penny.tank@wisc.edu), with the subject line: 4-H Friday Photo and each family will be entered into a drawing at a later date for some special gifts! I may even ask for your permission to post a few on Facebook or our website/newsletter. We have some supplies at the Extension Office that could possibly be mailed to your home if needed. Email Penny to discuss. *Penny Tank, 4-H Program Educator*

## Chips in Muffins

So, what do perfect muffins look like? Muffins should be light and tender with rounded, pebbly (or bumpy) tops. The crusts are golden brown. If you open the muffin, it has fine, even holes. Let's see if you can make some muffins that your family will call "perfect."

### **Directions:**

1. Heat oven to 400 degrees. Grease the bottoms of muffin cups in a 12-cup pan.
2. In a small bowl, cover butter or margarine with waxed paper and microwave on high for 30 to 45 seconds (or until melted). Let the margarine cool 5 minutes.
3. Crack the eggs into a medium bowl, and then add the butter and milk. Beat mixture with a fork until mixed well.
4. In a separate medium bowl, mix together all the "dry" ingredients: the flour, brown sugar, baking powder, and salt. Stir until mixed.
5. Add the "wet" ingredients to the "dry" ingredients. Stir just until the flour is wet. The batter will be lumpy.
6. Stir in the chocolate chips.
7. Spoon the batter into each muffin cup until it is about 2/3 full.
8. Bake for 18 to 20 minutes or until golden brown. Carefully remove muffins from the pan as soon as you take them out of the oven, so they won't get soggy. Cool muffins on a wire rack.

**Reflect on your experience:** *How did your muffins turn out? What was most challenging? Is there anything you would do different next time?*



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### **Ingredients/Supplies**

- 1 stick of margarine or butter
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup milk
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- ¾ cup packed brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ½ cup semisweet chocolate chips

*Source: 4-H Foods Literature, Level A; Six Easy Bites, page 36*

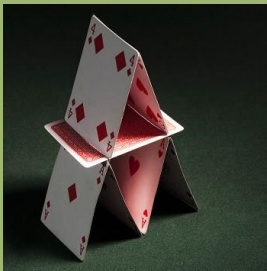


## House of Cards

Have you ever tried to build a house out of cards? This can be a tricky project! It also includes many skills like patience, creativity, problem solving, and more.

According to the Guinness Book of World Records, the tallest free-standing house of cards measured 25 feet 9 7/16 inches and was built by Bryan Berg on October 16, 2007 in Dallas, Texas.

**Supplies:** deck of cards (look for the least glossy finish of cards you can find or an older card deck where the finish has worn down, and be sure they are not all bent)



### To Begin:

- Suggested to build on a slightly rough surface (not a surface that will move easily)
- Try not to touch the rest of the cards while stacking
- Be patient – building a house of cards takes practice. Keep trying!
- Prop two cards together into an inverted “V” shape. The top edges of the cards should meet, and the bottom edges should be evenly spaced apart.
- The point of each triangle should be no more than one card’s length from the point of the next triangle.
- Gently lay a flat card on top of the first two triangles.
- Repeat these 3 steps to make each level.

Take a picture of your house of cards and we can see who is able to make a two or even three level house of cards!!

*Suggestions and tips from wikiHow*

Extension Waupaca County

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## Unique or Trick/Optical Illusion Photo

All it takes is a little imagination to take some photos that have “special effects.” One of the best ways to do this is to play tricks with distance. As you know, when a subject is closer, it looks larger than when it is far away – even though they are actually the same size. Use this to your advantage and experiment with distance.

Another trick depends on things that the person viewing the photo cannot see. For example, if someone is standing directly in front of a flower pot, the pot might not be visible, making it look as if the flowers are growing out of the subject’s head!

**Skills:** Composing creative, unusual photos; practice creativity

**Materials:** Camera/cell phone camera

**To do:** Try a few of the following and come up with your own ideas.

- Ask two family members to stand so that it looks like one person is balanced on the other’s hand.
- Set up a photo so that it looks like somebody is standing on top of a bottle of water.
- Make it look like somebody is under water.
- Position a family member so that it looks like a plant is growing out of their head, mouth or ear.

**Reflect:** Was it fun setting up trick/optical illusion photos? What might you try next time? Which photo did your family like best? Why?



*Source: National 4-H, Photography Basics Book 1 4-H Literature, Activity 11*

*Example photos courtesy of the Acker Family*

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