

The Harvester

CROP - CREATING
RURAL OPPORTUNITIES
PARTNERSHIP

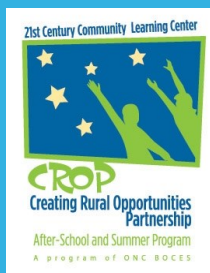
SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

**CROP– Cornell
Cooperative
Extension Meal Kits
Project**

**Loretta McCormick
Afterschool
Achievement
Awards**

**CROP
Partner Spotlight:
Roxbury Arts Group
– Art Care Packages**

**Updates from all 14
CROP sites**



CROP is alive and well this fall... CROP might look different these days, but we are still engaging students and families at our 14 schools with send-home kits, Zoom sessions, virtual field trips, and small in-person programs. Find out how you and your students can get involved this year!

CROP & CCE: Delivering Healthy Meal Kits to Schools

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Delaware County's Healthy Meal Kit program with six fun nutrition mini-lessons and food to make 6 meals were packed and delivered to 500 families at 12 schools the first week of June.

The Healthy Meal Kit program was prepared by Delaware County Extension staff in with support and funding from the Creating Rural Opportunities Partnership (CROP) Program in cooperation with local school districts. The program has been designed for youth to make meals together with their family and complete Taking a Nutrition Bite Together lessons as part of the meal preparation experiences.

"A key aspect of CROP's programming is engaging families in their children's education," said CROP Program Manager Carolyn Cooper. For many years, CCE has been a key partner in helping us reach parents through nutrition and cooking programs. We are proud to partner with them on this exciting project."

Jeanne Darling, Executive Director of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Delaware County, who has led the development of the Healthy Meal Kit project would like to acknowledge and thank all of the schools, ONC BOCES CROP program managers, Cornell EFNEP staff, SNAP-Ed regional staff, our CCE nutrition educators, and Extension staff who helped prepare, pack and deliver the meal kits, and several companies who have donated food and packing materials, bags and boxes. A grateful THANK YOU to the contributing companies below for supporting and helping to fund our HEALTHY MEAL KIT PROGRAM:

- Burt Rigid Box Inc. (boxes)
- Chobani (yogurt)
- Home Depot (reusable bags)
- Lowe's (reusable bags)
- Price Chopper (food, disposable bags)
- Saputo Dairy Foods (milk)
- Walmart (packing materials)



"We are excited "added Jeanne Darling
"to prepare and deliver this project to so many families during COVID-19 and we thank CROP for the funds to make this project a fun educational experience for families in Delaware, Otsego, Schoharie and Greene Counties".

-Excerpted from joint CCE Delaware County & CROP Press Release, June 2020



Program Manager's Corner

Throughout the spring and summer and into the fall, CROP programs at our fourteen schools have found new and unique ways to support students and families during the pandemic. From Zoom homework help to fun send-home project kits, to hybrid CROP programs, CROP can support student learning and engage families.

We hosted our first virtual CROP All-Staff Training in September by Zoom! With sessions on paper engineering, SEL welcoming and closing rituals and project kit brainstorms, our staff collaborated on new activities and projects for CROP.

We want to thank school administrators and CROP staff for their resourcefulness and creativity during this time as well as their ongoing support of CROP.



Carolyn Cooper
Prog. Manager



Chris DeCesare
Asst. Prog. Manager



Liz Forster
Data/Budget
Coordinator



Calling all Parents! Support Your CROP Program!

Parents– CROP needs you more than ever this year! Please participate fully in your school's hybrid, virtual, or in-person program.

Engage with CROP this year!

Funding for CROP is provided through a very competitive federal 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant. CROP serves more than 1,140 K-8 students each year at schools in Delaware, Otsego, Schoharie and Greene Counties, offering a nurturing place after-school and during the summer. This year, your participation in CROP— whatever form it takes at your school— helps us keep our full funding and shows the state that we value CROP's childcare and academic support in our region!

Share your photos!

Share photos of your child and his/her CROP projects with your Site Coordinator who can post them privately via facebook or other group.

Right: A Jefferson student works on a bookmark project from a send-home kit



Share your feedback!

Let your Site Coordinator know which project kit activities your child liked and completed at home. This feedback helps us improve our send-home kits and helps us track your engagement with CROP. Thank you for taking the time to share this info with us! Contact your Site Coordinator or Carolyn Cooper– Program Manager– cooper@oncboces.org to learn more.

McCormick Afterschool Achievement Awards 2019-2020

We are fortunate to have so many caring and dedicated staff and students in our CROP program. Last spring, 25 people were nominated for CROP's sixth annual Loretta McCormick Afterschool Achievement Awards for best Site Coordinator, Activity Leader, Peer Leader, and Student Participant. The committee chose the following staff and students as this year's award recipients.



Left: Jennifer Finkle, Andes Site Coordinator accepts her the 2020 Site Coordinator Award alongside her CROP staff.

Right: Melanie Duhamel, Worcester CROP Activity Leader, accepts her award from Site Coordinator Dawn Handy.



Left: Logan Green of Laurens CROP, pictured with his mom and Site Coordinator Jean Barry, won the Student Participant Award for 2019-2020.

Right: Ashley Sarno of South Kortright CROP accepts the Peer Leader Award from her Site Coordinator Debby White and Activity Leader Becky Maeder-Chien.



Partner Highlight: Roxbury Arts Group



This spring, Roxbury Arts Group transformed their in-person programming into wonderful Art Care Packages that were delivered to CROP students at home this spring and summer. Kindergarten and first grade students learned to mix primary colors with playdough and created popsicle wall hangings. Second and third graders explored patterns with gridded paper and tried their

hands at landscape painting. Both kits also contained activities introducing students to the artwork of Jackson Pollock.

Captions: Jefferson CROP students show off popsicle stick wall hangings (right) and playdough color mixing (left).



NEWS FROM OUR SITES, PAGES 4– 7

Worcester

This fall, Worcester CROP students and families will visit Middlefield Orchard to pick apples and pumpkins! This field trip will complement the first send-home kits of the year with pumpkin science experiments, pumpkin math, games, Scholastic News magazines, and art activities.



Roxbury

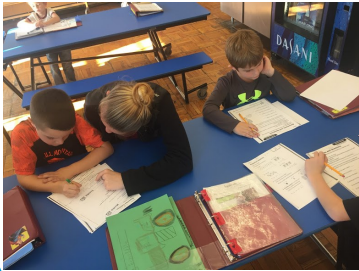
Over the spring and summer, Roxbury CROP sent home themed cooking kits with ingredients to make a family recipe along with related literacy, math, and other learning activities. Students who participated in each activity earned badges for a virtual CROP apron!

This fall, Roxbury CROP is supporting students and families with a special Wednesday Care program. While students learn remotely on Wednesdays, CROP offers in-the-building academic support, enrichment, and recreation so parents may return to work. Contact Kristi Hadden, Roxbury Site Coordinator, for more information.



Andes

In early November, Andes students will return to in-person CROP by cohorts on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. Students will receive send-home kits of activities for Thursday, Friday and weekends. November send-home kits will include a pumpkin to carve, the book *Too Many Pumpkins* by Linda White, seed counting and weighing activities, recipes for cooking pumpkin bread, and fall crafts. Thank you, Andes CROP for the great activities and great projects both in and out of school!



Morris

When in-person CROP closed last spring, Morris sent home eight weeks of engaging project kits to students learning at home. Kit themes included Under the Sea, Baking, Family, Nature, On the Farm, and many more. CROP sent kits to 39 families throughout the spring.

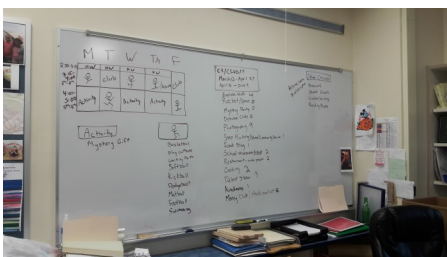
This fall, more than 93 families have signed up to receive kits! Morris kicked off this year's kits with a Back to School Celebration kit and a CROP family field trip to Middlefield Orchard for apple and pumpkin picking.



On top of the successful send-home kit program, Morris will soon open in person for afterschool childcare. Thank you, Morris CROP for doing everything possible to use 21st CCLC funding to serve children and their families.



Windham-Ashland Jewett

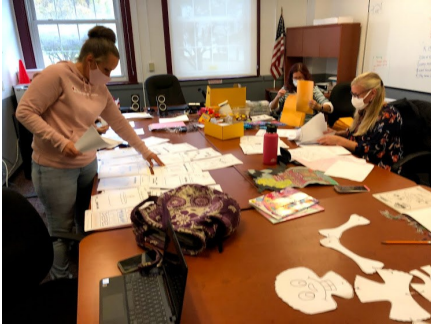


Windham CROP students and staff are eager to return to in-person CROP as soon as they can. Here, middle school students design and lead their own projects for each other last winter.



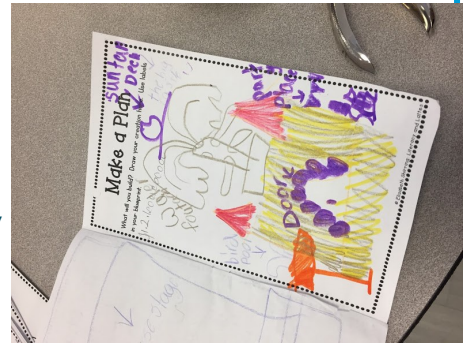
Charlotte Valley

Charlotte Valley's CROP staff pictured below are hard at work on their first kits, which went home with students the first week of October! Kits included a variety of activities around a Halloween theme, including make-a-skeleton, crayon resist art, and pumpkin math. Homework support is also available by Zoom each day afterschool.



Milford

Milford CROP students and staff look forward to getting back to in-person CROP. Last spring, one of Milford's most popular activities was Engineering with Chocolate! Here, students design and construct their own chocolate houses. Older groups enjoyed the Iditarod dogsled race. In the meantime, this fall, CROP students will receive project kits with a variety of hands-on activities.



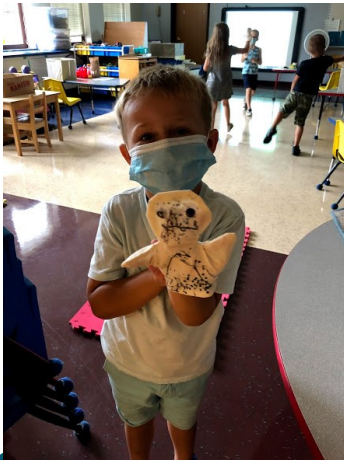
Laurens

Laurens CROP is now open in-person in a hybrid model. One group attends CROP Mondays-Tuesdays and another group on Thursdays- Fridays. Kids will take home project kits created by their Activity Leader for days they are not attending in-person CROP.

Right: Middle schoolers painted pumpkins their first week back to in-person CROP.



Hunter-Tannersville



This summer, Hunter offered an 8-week in-person CROP summer program for children of essential workers to meet the huge need for childcare for parents and caregivers who returned to work during the pandemic. A virtual arts program from Catskill Mountain Foundation ran alongside the in-person program. Students at home and in the childcare program learned about circus arts, dance, and puppetry.

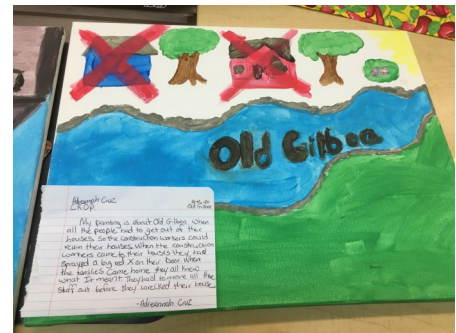


CROP was a wonderful opportunity for my two students to regain some normalcy during a global pandemic while also allowing both parents (essential workers) to go to work.— Parent, Hunter CROP Childcare Program, Summer 2020

Gilboa-Conesville

While school buildings were closed in spring, CROP staff offered hours of homework support to students referred by their teachers and outreach to their families.

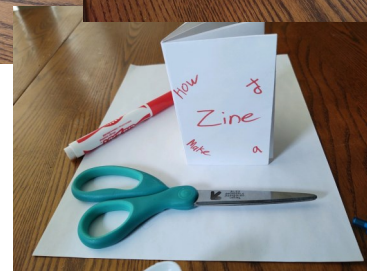
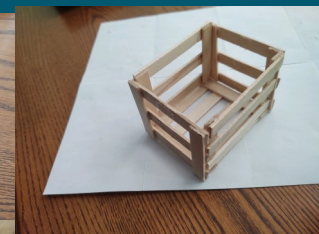
The first fall kit went home with the theme of “Imagination Thru Creativity” which included activities to paint Old Gilboa, make trail mix and do related math, create acrostic poems, look for signs of fall, and participate in mindfulness.



South Kortright

South Kortright CROP staff and students are eager to return to in-person CROP as soon as possible

In the meantime, this fall, South Kortright will send home their first kits from CROP partners. Paint and canvases from Roxbury Arts Group, will allow students to explore the splashy work of artist Jackson Pollock. Kits from Hanford Mills Museum will engage students in making their own zines, mini crates, and catapults.

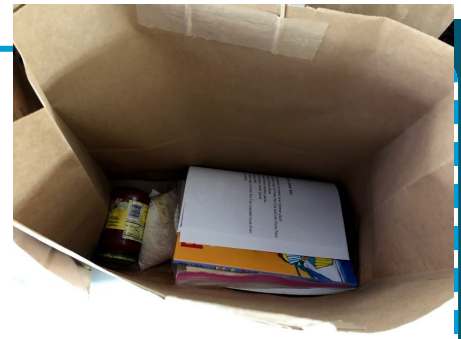


Margaretville



Over the summer, Margaretville CROP sent home wonderful cooking and literacy kits to families. Kids received a cooking project—like spaghetti!—with books to keep, such as *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs*, and *Spaghetti on a Hotdog Bun*. Kits also included learning activities like dancing spaghetti science experiment, a spaghetti craft, and a Zoom read-aloud session. Thanks, Margaretville CROP for keeping the learning going all summer!

They had a lot of fun! Thanks for putting the kits together and all the hard work!- Margaretville CROP Parent, Summer 2020



Jefferson



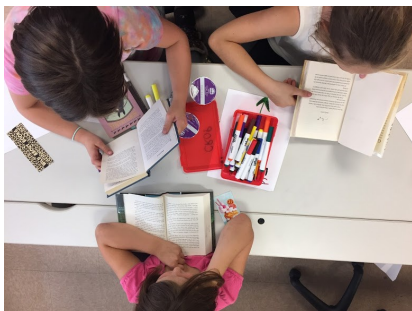
This summer, Jefferson sent home four weeks of inspiring project kits to CROP students. Students earned a letter for each week they participated in the virtual summer program, spelling C-R-O-P. Students who completed all

four weeks earned CROP Superstar Status!

- C- Cooperating Partners: Fun project kits from Hanford Mills, Roxbury Arts Group & more
- R- Raising Flowers: Gardening & outdoor activities
- O- Our Thoughts: Journal kits for kids to document their experiences at home
- P- Produce Your Masterpiece: Inspiring art supplies for every budding artist!



Stamford



Stamford CROP students continued to get high quality homework support throughout the spring. All spring, Stamford CROP Staff provided outreach to students to help them and get caught up and stay connected to school. Thank you, CROP staff for the hours of care and support you showed to students!

This fall, Stamford CROP students are looking forward to receiving their first send-home project kits in addition to homework help.

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21st Century Community Learning Center



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