

May 18, 2026

# WISE ACADEMY NEWS

## SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is seeking volunteers for the Karner Blue Butterfly Volunteer Monitoring Program to help survey for this endangered butterfly starting in July in select counties (20 total) throughout Wisconsin.

Become a volunteer:

- Access [online training materials](#)
- Join the [Wisconsin Karner Volunteer Monitoring Program Project on iNaturalist](#) to submit data.
- [Register online](#) & participate in an optional in-person field training session.
  - Beaver Creek Reserve – Wise Nature Center
    - Fall Creek, Wisconsin
    - Thursday, June 11, 1:30 to 3 p.m.
  - Sandhill Wildlife Area
    - Babcock, Wisconsin
    - Saturday, June 13, 1:30 to 3 p.m.



Currently, Wisconsin has the largest remaining population of Karner blue butterflies, with the only other populations occurring in Michigan, Ohio, New Hampshire and New York. Wild lupine is the only food source for Karners' pale green caterpillars.

[Click here for the full news release.](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

May

18<sup>th</sup> - Circus World @ Baraboo

27<sup>th</sup> - Survival Course Field Day (for Survival 101 and 202 students only)  
@ Black River Falls

29<sup>th</sup> - End of Year Celebration @ Manitowoc

**Sign ups closed**



## YEARBOOK

We want to celebrate your family!

[Click here](#) to submit pictures and stories for the digital yearbook.



## DIGITAL SAFETY



Looking for ways to teach Digital Safety? Discovery Education & Norton partnered up to create a curriculum to help teach digital safety.

**My Digital Life** is a self-paced module that focuses on equipping students with essential digital citizenship, safety, and literacy skills to navigate the online world confidently and responsibly. [Click here for My Digital Life self-paced module.](#)

In case you missed it last week, they also have an animated video series to teach kids how to navigate the online world responsibly.

[Click here for videos on Artificial Intelligence & Irresponsible Online Behaviors.](#)

## EVERDAY PRACTICE - SOCIAL EMOTIONAL

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. The 2026 theme is "More Good Days, Together." Here are some **video resources** designed for younger students you can use to help explore & talk about mental health topics such as stress, frustration, overthinking, & mindfulness.

**Jane the Brain animated videos** - In this fun and colorful video series from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), Jane, our super-smart and friendly animated character, helps kids understand big feelings like stress, frustration, and sadness.



- [Episode 1 = Jane the Brain & the Stress Mess](#)
- [Episode 2 = Jane the Brain & the Frustration Sensation](#)
- [Episode 3 = Jane the Brain & the Upset Reset](#)

[Positive Habits for Good Mental Health](#) - Discover ways to take care of your mental health that support a child and teen's social emotional learning. We highlight 4 key habits for good mental health, including: 1) Pay attention to your thoughts, feelings, and actions 2) Build your self-esteem 3) Learn to cope with stress 4) Keep your body healthy.

[Overthinking for Kids](#) - 7 ways to manage worries

[Perseverance for Kids](#) - Skills to develop grit & persistence

[Mindfulness for Kids](#) - More than just meditation



### STUDENT REFLECTION MTGS.

End of the year student reflection meetings are happening now. If you haven't already signed up through the email from your teacher, make sure you do so before May 28<sup>th</sup>.



Teachers love seeing & hearing about their learning experiences. This is also a good time to reflect on projects that they've been doing!

### LEARNING PLAN MTGS.

Our learning plan template has changed!

Teachers have or will be soon sending out their calendars to sign up for learning plan meetings for those that are ready to talk curriculum & resources for next year.

**Reminder:** We cannot start submitting orders until August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### CONTACT INFO

[Terry Whitmore, Principal](#)

[Stacey Russell](#)

[Stacey Hahn](#)

[Kristin Daliege](#)

[Angie Hillemeier](#)

[Madison Skusevich](#)

[Mandy Tuttle, Student Services Secretary](#)

### [WISE Webpage](#)

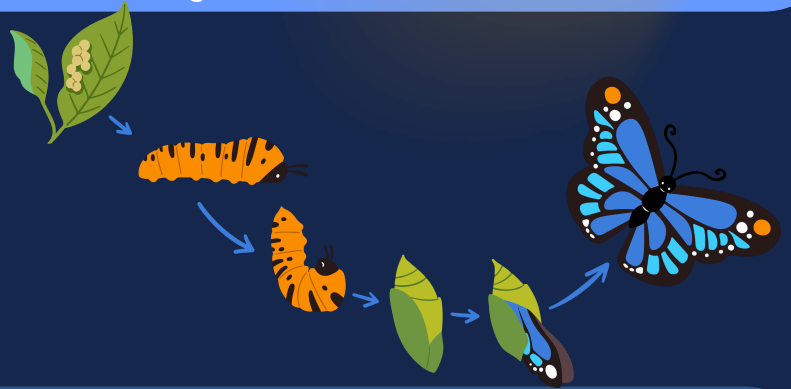


# WISE ACADEMY STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

WISE students are doing incredible things every day! Does your family have a moment you'd like featured in the 2025–2026 yearbook or a future newsletter? We'd love to see it — just send your photos to your family's teacher. In the meantime, take a look at these students putting their learning into action!

Check out this WISE scientist!

Will has been carefully observing and studying caterpillars as they grow and change each day. Through hands-on observation, he's learning about life cycles, growth, and metamorphosis in a real-world way. We can't wait to see if these little caterpillars transform into beautiful butterflies soon!



# HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

## Course Grades & Credits

Use this form to submit grades for completed courses or to complete a self reflection to propose a grade for a completed project.

[Reflection and Grade](#)



## Project-Based Learning

Rubrics are used during reflection check-ins or scheduled meetings. Talk with your teacher for more information!

[Reflection Worksheet and Rubrics](#)

## WISE GOVERNANCE COUNCIL



Are you interested in seeing how WISE runs? Would you like a voice in future planning?

WISE Governance Council is looking for high school representation. They meet the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. for an hour on Google Meet.

Can't commit to every month, but would like to try a couple months?

Interested or have questions? Reach out to your teacher for more info.



## BUILD YOUR RESUME

Looking for help to build a resume? Utilizing YouScience technology, students will form a resume fit for any job, scholarship, or college application they desire!

Upon booking, students will receive a login to YouScience's aptitude discovery portal and interest inventory to help drive our work together. It is asked that students complete these activities (amounting to 90 minutes or less) prior to our meeting.

Please reach out to your family's WISE teacher with questions.

[Click here to sign up](#) to meet with one of our WISE Teachers, Madison Skusevich, for a 1-on-1 resume workshop.

