

ZOOM INTO SCIENCE

# **GE©RGIA** 4-H SCIENCE PROGRAM

ThurSday December 17, 2020 4:00PM

eastern time

2020 COVID-19 PANDEMIC RESPONSE Virt and

#### All about Reptiles & Amphibia

Virtually meet Clemson University professor Dr. k and learn all about reptile and amphibian diversit Southeastern part of the United States

#### ZOOM INTO SCIENCE Kasey Bozeman

The Georgia 4-H Zoom into Science virtual series offers 4-H youth to the opportunity to connect with professionals in various science industries. An integrated, cross-discipline approach to science education began in the 1990s with the National Science Foundation. Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) literacy "includes the conceptual understandings and procedural skills and abilities for individuals to address STEM-related personal, social, and global issues," (Byhee, 2014). With economic competition truly becoming global and STEM-related careers continue to expand, there is a need for young people to develop interest and skills in these areas, (Caprile, Palmen, Sanz, & Dente, 2015). Exposing young people to STEM-related opportunities at younger ages teach valuable content and potentially increase youth interest and influence their career choices.

Extension programming during the COVID-19 pandemic provides the opportunity for innovative and nontraditional delivery methods. As a response to provide educational STEM opportunities during this time, the Georgia 4-H Zoom into Science webinar series allows youth to engage from natural science experts in their respective fields using a virtual platform. Not only do participants learn science content, but they are also exposed to a variety of STEM-related careers. Each onehour session focuses on a particular science concept. Presenters share their real-world experiences often through photos and videos and allow youth to ask questions. Some presenters even featured live animals. All sessions are offered at no cost to families.



To date, the Georgia 4-H Zoom into Science webinar series has offered 16 virtual sessions engaging 1,016 families in real-time throughout the United States and Canada. Though the program was intended for Georgia 4-H families, social media promotion has quickly engaged 4-H youth at a larger scale. Session topics have included astronomy, weather, animal prosthesis, paleontology, water, plant genetics, and sea turtles. Due to the programming being delivered virtually, presenters residing in Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Texas, and Wisconsin connected with the attendees.

At the end of a session, a participant commented to a presenter, "Thank you! I learned so much and want to be like you one day." A Georgia 4-H Agent commented, "Thank you SO MUCH for organizing these sessions and for creating marketing graphics! The graphics are easy to add to our newsletters and social media and it is nice to have programs to offer our 4-Hers during months like these when I'm scrambling just trying to figure out what do to next...So thanks for your time and energy to organize these – we are definitely promoting them!"

#### "16 VIRTUAL SESSIONS, REACHING 1,016 FAMILIES"

Because of the successes over the summer, plans are to continue the series throughout the 2020-21 school year. Additionally, a video channel was created where the recorded sessions are posted for asynchronous viewing.



#### georgia4h.org | 1-800-ASK-UGA1

The University of Georgia 4-H program is the largest youth leadership organization in the state. An Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, Veteran, Disability Institution





# 🍀 ZOOM INTO SCIENCE

### THE PROGRAM

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#### **OBJECTIVES**

Through the Zoom into Science series, youth:

- Describe the scientist's role in research and discoveries
- Name various STEM-related fields

**NIVERSITY OF GEORGIA** 

EXTENSION

- Explain different science-related concepts related to the speaker's presentation
- Apply the information learned to everyday scenarios

## CONTACT

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### THE SCOPE



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