

Several 4th & 5th grade students were "earthquake engineers" for the one week science camp, Shake Things Up, put on by Washington County Extension at Lincoln Elementary February 9-12. Students gained a better definition of science terms like engineering, shake tables, variables, richter, building codes and shear. Students also worked to design, test and redesign building skeletons with the goal to have it withstand a 7.0 simulated earthquake. "This camp was a great extension to the elementary science curriculum," said 4-H Youth Coordinator, Amy Green. "Our camp was a success with the participants. We look forward to using this material for future camps and classroom extension activities as well."



Green explained that youth seem to have an increased interest in the science areas. "The last day of camp, participants completed a survey regarding their experience. 11/13 students said they are more interested in science now," reported Green. "We have made it a goal through Extension/4-H to work to serve those students." Washington County Extension is working to set their summer camps which will include several special STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) camps. For more information on the camp or other science opportunities for youth, contact the Washington County Extension Office at 319-653-4811. Follow "Washington County 4-H – Iowa" on Facebook to see more pictures of youth in action with science. (Pictures and article are courtesy of Amy Green, 4-H/ Youth Coordinator, Washington County Extension Service.)

