

# Bringing science home with free activity kits

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In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Wisconsin MRSEC developed and disseminated inclusive science activity kits. The project started in partnership with a local food pantry as an effort to engage with economically disadvantaged members of the Madison community. Food pantry staff and clients provided crucial insight to make the kits accessible and inclusive, such as including *all* the necessary materials including common household items like tape and including instructions in Spanish and English.

The MRSEC developed four kits and disseminated them across WI to community centers, school groups for virtual field trips, libraries, and students in rural communities through the WI 4H program. Since August of 2020, the MRSEC has distributed over 3000 inclusive science activity kits.



**The Wisconsin MRSEC's inclusive science activity kits.** From left to right: building a triboelectric nanogenerator to convert motion into electricity; exploring light and creating art with birefringent cellophane and polarizing filters; a game illustrating how computers learn; exploring the materials properties of paper. Bottom: 4H students in rural WI use the paper kits during a virtual field trip.