



Youngsters enjoy, learn new skills

By Tom Betz
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The weather was sunny and windy as about 36 youngsters ages 13 and under trekked out to Randy Bellamy Farm 12 miles south of town for the annual Youth Skills Day Saturday.

Outdoor adventures for the young boys and girls were available in fishing, archery, hunting dog handling, black powder rifles, .22 rifles and trap shooting with shot guns.

The events allow each participant to experience the fun and safety measures for each adventure. This is the seventh year for the event, said Troy Mannis, organizer and contact person.

The kids were split into groups of six with an adult leader and other adults were at each adventure spot to help as each participant was able to get involved.

People who helped with the event were Heath Mannis, Keith Mannis, Justin Dole, J.L. Wilson, Billy Hill, Brian James, Ken Klemm, Jim Kennedy, Melvin Crow, Mike Hopper, Randy Raile, Drew Raile, Terry Thatcher, Dean Graber, Tiffney Sharon, Brandon Sheppard, Leon Johnson, Nick Kellet, Steve Duell, Colleen Duell, Aaron Duell, Adam Duell and Doug Duell.

Steve Duell and his family helped cook the hamburgers, hotdogs and buffalo brats for lunch.

Mannis said he wanted to thank the many businesses and volunteers who helped make the program a success. He said it is really great to be able to come to the Bellamy Farms to put the program on with the open area to handle the variety of events.



A hunting dog returned with a dummy that he retrieved in the water. Brian James (top left) helped a young lady aim a rifle at a target. Kansas Wildlife Officer Mike Hopper (top right) helped a girl with her fishing skills. Ken Klemm (left) also helped James on the firing line. Kids got to try their hand at archery (bottom left) and were also shown some training techniques (bottom right) for hunting dogs.

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