

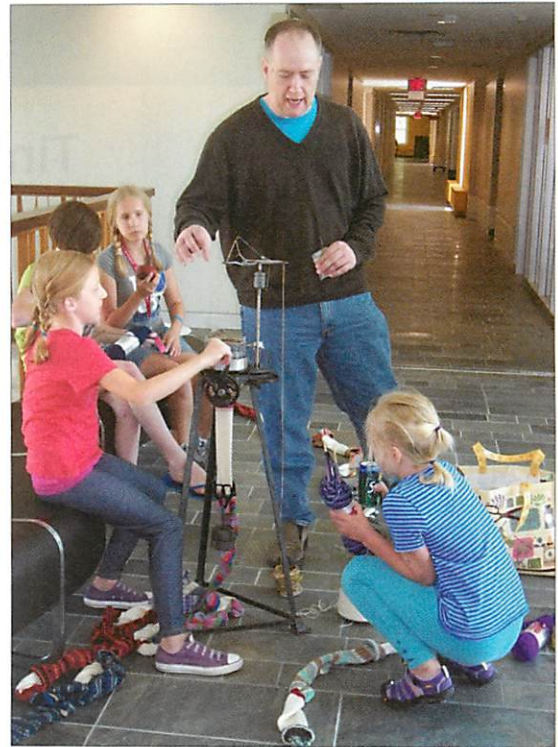
First Class in New Building: Students Learn Science and Math through Knitting

Associate Professor Lori Bakken organized a seminar called Knitting to Learn Math and Science as part of a 4-H Youth Conference held in June at the Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery and Nancy Nicholas Hall. Six young women between the ages of eight and 14 attended the seminar, knitted (some for the first time), heard experts speak, and performed laboratory experiments. They learned about:

- The science of fibers — specifically, the differences among and characteristics of wool, cotton, and silk
- Mathematics using a domino knitting technique that creates a square through a pattern of decreases
- Characteristics of microbes (and a bit about viruses, too) and their vast presence in our world
- How to identify and manage insects that are harmful to the fibers we knit with

The seminar was funded by UW Extension, a 4-H Learning Resources Grant, and contributions from donors.

John Loeffelholz, department administrator in Human Development and Family Studies demonstrates his sock-knitting machine to 4-H participants in Associate Professor Lori Bakken's seminar.



KRISTY BURKHOLDER