



## Distance Learning Event Schedule 2021

### **Prairies for the People!**

**[May 12, 2021](#)**

Join the Education Director and Volunteers from Native Prairies Association of Texas to learn about ancient prairies that are helping to make cities more resilient and healthier for both people and wildlife! We'll explore the famous Deer Park Prairie, the largest intact URBAN prairie in the Greater Houston region. This prairie is buzzing and hopping with life and its seeds are being used to restore dozens of prairies, including city prairies, in the area. We'll discuss the coastal prairie ecosystem, the importance of our insects and pollinators, and the benefits that prairies and native plants can provide within city limits. Remnant prairies are ancient, and they help connect Texans to their iconic culture and history. We'll even show students and schools how they can bring a pocket prairie to their school! [Learn more about this FREE session and register here.](#)

### **be nice. (Mental Health) *for Educators***

**[May 20, 2021](#)**

Educators can be the first people to recognize when a child's behavior is changing. This presentation educates school staff on how to spot and identify when a student is battling a mental illness, with an emphasis on depression and anxiety. Provides statistics and crucial information that illuminates the rise in suicide and bullying amongst youth. Through a four-part action plan, we will explain how to notice those around you, invite change, challenge yourself and others to be kind and empower yourself and others to take action. Thank you to the Mental Health Foundation of West Michigan and be nice.®. MI for partnering with us to provide this valuable presentation. [Learn more about this FREE session and register here.](#)

### **Galveston Bay STEM Careers: Oyster Shell Recycling**

**[May 18, 2021](#)**

What types of careers get you outside, let you play with cool equipment, and help people and the environment at the same time? Join Galveston Bay Foundation's Habitat Restoration Technician, Shannon Batte, at one of our shell curing sites to learn more about the importance of oyster reefs in the bay, how Galveston Bay Foundation is restoring them, and how you can help the next time you go out to eat! Shannon will present for 15 minutes and we will have Q&A for 15 minutes. Come prepared to ask questions about her job and career background! [Learn more about this FREE session and register here.](#)

## **Investigating Life Cycles**

**[May 19, 2021 and 26, 2021](#)**

Investigating Life Cycles is an inquiry-based program that allows students to investigate and understand each stage of various life cycles using biofacts, kinesthetic activities, and trivia games, for a better understanding of the cycle as a whole. Students will learn the characteristics that allow a plant or animal to grow into a mature adult and how each stage affects its habitat and other plant and animal populations. [Learn more about this FREE session and register here.](#)

# **SUMMER EVENTS**

## **Gaming Safety for Educators**

**[June 3, 2021](#)**

The rise of online gaming in mainstream culture has caused an increased risk of vulnerability and victimization in students. This presentation will teach you about video game basics, the impact of eSports on our culture and safety, how gaming could be affecting your students, and how to keep your student safe while gaming. We will end this presentation with monitoring tools and techniques to aid you in ensuring safe game play in your home. [Learn more about this FREE session and register here.](#)

## **Cyber Safety and Human Trafficking Awareness for Educators**

**[June 17, 2021](#)**

There is an inseparable link between Human Trafficking and the Internet. This presentation will highlight the nexus between pornography, trafficking, and grooming techniques used by predators. Gain an understanding through examples of direct messages used to lure students away from their homes, and most importantly how to have the uneasy but necessary conversations with your student. Thank you to Love People Not Pixels and Dr. Nissi Hamilton for partnering with us to provide valuable videos throughout this presentation! [Learn more about this FREE session and register here.](#)

## **Cyber Safety Awareness for Educators**

**[July 8, 2021](#)**

There are a plethora of cyber safety concerns and forms of online victimization. In this presentation you will get a brief overview of potential online dangers, cybercrime trends, popular social media and gaming platforms, and online monitoring tools to assist you in keeping your student safe while using the internet. [Learn more about this FREE session and register here.](#)

## **Reporting Disclosed and Suspected Child Abuse & Neglect for Educators** **[July 22, 2021](#)**

Signs and symptoms of all forms of child abuse are discussed, including neglect and human trafficking. Current laws are reviewed and resources provided on handling disclosures and required duties to respond. [Learn more about this FREE session and register here.](#)

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Region 4 partners with the [Texas Education Communications Network \(TETN\)](#) to provide districts and charter schools with professional development opportunities offered throughout the state of Texas. View the list of upcoming [TETN events](#) that are open to districts and charter schools.

### **ELL Special Populations Bilingual ESL Title III (Online)** **[May 7, 2021](#)**

Attend this TETN session to receive information regarding changes and updates in Bilingual/ESL and Title III programs. Registration is open to members appointed by Region 4 area district superintendents. [Learn more about this FREE session and register here.](#)

### **Texas Statewide Network of Assessment Professionals (Online)** **[July 21, 2021](#)**

This TETN is intended to provide members of Texas Statewide Network of Assessment Professionals (TSNAP) with assessment updates. The TETN is facilitated by members with presentations from TEA. [Learn more about this FREE session and register here.](#)