
Subject: Beyond School Bells Newsletter-January 2022

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From: Beyond School Bells



January 2022

News & Policy

Best Summer Ever!

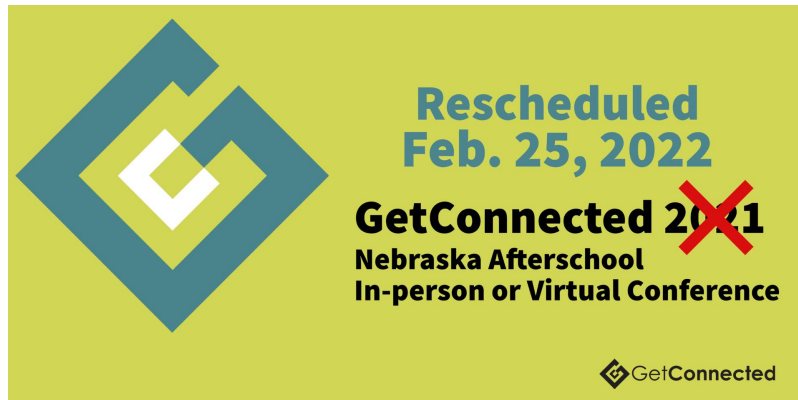


This week's warmer weather across Nebraska makes it easy for us to daydream about the lazy days of summer. But only for a few minutes, because it is also just the right time of year to roll up your sleeves and start designing and building a summer program will excite, engage and inspire youth in your Nebraska community.

Given all the challenges that youth have faced during these past two, unprecedented years of disrupted learning, we at Beyond School Bells are committed to working with our partners across the state to make the summer of 2022 the **Best Summer Ever!** Opportunities for youth to play and have fun. Hands-on activities. Engaging challenges. Safe, outdoor experiences. Small group centered learning. Activities allowing youth to engage in fun learning activities that benefit their community.

We are looking forward to working with schools and communities across Nebraska to create great summer learning experiences for all NE youth. Keep us posted on your progress and keep watching this site to find out about opportunities we will be providing to support efforts to launch great programs in communities across the state. Working together we can make the Summer of 2022 the **Best Summer Ever!** for an incredibly deserving group of youth across Nebraska.

Register NOW for the February 25th *GetConnected* Statewide Afterschool and Summer Learning Conference at Omaha's CHI Health Center



Best Summer Ever! will be a key discussion topic at the February 25th *GetConnected* conference, a partnership between Beyond School Bells, Nebraska Extension and the NE Department of Education's 21st Century CLC program. Due to continued uncertainty about COVID, this will be a hybrid event, but one with a full array of in-person group sessions and workshops as well as opportunities for on-line participation, including six rooms set up for live streaming workshops for both remote and in person attendees and 9 rooms providing opportunities for in person attendees to get hands-on workshops experiences. Now is the time to register for this important event!

[Register Now!](#)

Resources & Opportunities

Reimagine Who Can Engineer, Build, and Make with MGM Resources



Million Girls Moonshot

Engaging one million more girls in STEM learning opportunities



The [Million Girls Moonshot](#) (MGM) is helping reimagine who can engineer, who can build, who can make. It is inspiring and preparing the next generation of innovators by engaging 1 million girls in STEM learning opportunities through after school and summer programs over the next five years.

The MGM is kicking off the 2022 year strong with webinars for networks and programs and inclusive cutting edge professional development packages. Check out these pre-recorded webinars from the Million Girls Moonshot January Asset package on [Engineering Mindsets](#) and [Role Models and Mentors as an Equity Strategy](#).

Help transform the way lessons are approached in the expanded learning environment by being intentional about Equity and Inclusion in [math](#) and [STEM](#) and by highlighting the ways that [math is an integral part of engineering](#) through making explicit connections between them. [This activity toolkit](#) was designed with these practices in mind. These webinars, articles, and toolkits are high quality, easy to use, and free!

New Content and Activities by Mizzen

Mizzen by Mott is excited to announce [new content partners and activities](#) coming to the app beginning in 2022. Mizzen has been working with exceptional leaders in their respective fields to bring much needed and requested activities and modules to afterschool and summer programs across the country.



[The Nature Conservancy](#) and [reDiscover Center](#) have joined Mizzen in sharing engaging, high-quality activities with the afterschool field. Look for content from these premier organizations at the start of the new year.

Mizzen will be adding over 100 new activities and modules by current content partners in 2022. Based on program needs, Mizzen is expanding their dynamic library of activities in critical topic areas like health, wellness and SEL. [Young Entrepreneur Institute](#) is slotted to release activities on pitch challenges that engage young people thinking creatively and critically. Bringing more music and fun to Mizzen, [Jazz at Lincoln Center](#) is adding new 60- to 90-minute activities ranging for grades 5-8 that will get young people moving, creating, and thinking together.



Finally, be on the lookout for new and exciting initiatives from [NASA](#) and the [Artemis Program](#) in 2022.

Events

Bring Environmental Education to Your Program!

Nebraska Game and Parks Monthly Conservation Education Lunch & Learns

We have said it before and we will say it again: one of the many lessons of 2021 was the value of outdoor, environmental, and conservation education. Getting kids outside improves physical health and wellbeing, mental and emotional wellbeing, and creates a place-based connection that can foster learning. Even though we may not be spending much time learning outdoors in January and February, there is still opportunity to continue to grow in how we approach and offer environmental and conservation education. Nebraska Game and Parks will be offering monthly virtual "Conservation Education Lunch and Learn" webinars for educators across the state. Whether you are a seasoned environmental educator or are a newly sprouting club leader, there is room for us all to grow and learn together. Join teachers, administrators, afterschool educators and student-staff who may be leading gardening, pollinator, birding, or any other environmental topics for any one or all 6 webinars. This series will offer insight into scientific foundations of conservation education and feature some of Nebraska's own experts.

Each webinar will occur on zoom the second Wednesday of the month from 12:30-1:30pm, beginning next week, January 12th. To register, click the buttons below corresponding to the dates of the webinars you are interested in attending!

CONSERVATION EDUCATION LUNCH & LEARN

MONTHLY VIRTUAL WEBINAR SERIES

Education is an essential part of conservation. Understanding how people learn and what motivates conservation-based behavior changes are complex

JAN 12

EFFECTIVE EVALUATIONS 101

- Learn best practices and tools when using evaluations to strengthen educational efforts

Amanda Filipi & Kelly Ekue
Nebraska Game & Parks Commission

FEB 9

LEARNING THROUGH INQUIRY: THE POWER OF ASKING BETTER QUESTIONS

- Learn about inquiry-based learning, and how asking better questions can help increase curiosity and learning

Amber Schiltz
Nebraska Game & Parks Commission

MAR 9

THE PLAN BEHIND THE PROGRAM

- Learn about the process from beginning to end on how an

Jan 12

Feb 9

Mar 9

subjects that span across many scientific disciplines.

This free series dives into the science behind educational efforts and practices by learning from experts on a variety of science and educational topics.

📅 Second Wednesday, Monthly
🕒 12:30 - 1:30PM (CST)

📍 TO REGISTER - Click the icon next to the webinar topic you wish to attend

For questions contact:
Amber Schiltz
Wildlife Education Program Manager
amber.schiltz@nebraska.gov

Follow us on social media
@NebraskaWildlifeEducation
www.outdoornebraska.gov/wildlifeeducation

educational program is created
Lindsay Rogers
Nebraska Game & Parks Commission

APR 13
CONSERVATION STORYTELLING THROUGH VISUAL MEDIA
• Explore simple and effective ways of using photography & videography to connect messages with your audience
Justin Haag & Nick Sauvageau
Nebraska Game & Parks Commission

MAY 11
COMMUNICATING SCIENCE IN THE MISINFORMATION ERA
• Learn about guidelines and tools to communicating science effectively in our digital age
Dr. Taylor Ruth
University of Nebraska - Lincoln

JUN 8
LET'S TAKE PLAY SERIOUSLY: THE VALUE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
• Discover how play and quality early childhood education creates a foundation of success for children and society
Jennifer Miller
Ruth Staples Child Development Center, University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Apr 13

May 11

Jun 8



Our Contact Information

Nebraska Children & Families Foundation
215 Centennial Mall South
Suite 200
Lincoln, NE 68508
402-476-9401
<http://www.NebraskaChildren.org>

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