



BRIT Brown Bag Series - April 5

Moving Forward in Sustainable Management of Natural Resources: The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation's relationship with innovative producers, applied research, and partnerships



Join BRIT on Tuesday, April 5, from noon – 1 p.m. as we welcome Amy Hays, Hugh Aljoe, and Mike Proctor from the Noble Foundation, an independent, nonprofit institute headquartered in Ardmore, Oklahoma. The foundation assists farmers and ranchers and conducts plant science research and agricultural programs to enhance conservation, natural resource management, and sustainability regionally, nationally, and internationally. The Noble Foundation's Agricultural Division is looking toward the future by identifying and working with innovative producers who bring new ideas and efficiencies to conservation of natural resources through cutting edge management and land stewardship practices. This lunchtime seminar will give you a brief history of the Noble Foundation and its unique consultation services for landowners and land managers and an overview of some of the Noble Foundation's native plant research studies.

Bring a friend and spend your lunchtime learning at this special Brown Bag. For more information about this event please visit our [webpage](#).

BRIT Visiting Researcher Seminar

The Botanical and Natural History of Martha's Vineyard

On Tuesday, April 12, we will welcome Mr. Tim Boland, Executive Director of the Polly Hill Arboretum, to BRIT's Visiting Researcher Seminar series. Like many places in North America and the world, Martha's Vineyard has endured the exploitation of its natural resources, loss of habitat, and extinction of species. Join Tim as he details the botanical research taking place on-island and the Arboretum's efforts to document the flora and study the forest ecology of the oak woodlands. This lecture will occur from noon – 1 p.m. in the BRIT Commons. For more information about this event, please visit our [webpage](#).



Urban Ranch Day at BRIT

On April 2, BRIT will partner with Jon Taggart of Burgundy Pasture Beef in Grandview and Chris Farley, Assistant Director of the Ranch Management Program at TCU and Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show Professor, both leaders in the Texas Ranch Brigade, to host the first annual Urban Agriculture Day. The day will bring Green Revolution students together with Brigade members and BRIT staff to increase awareness of sustainable ranching and farming practices. Green Revolution students will be challenged to find solutions for global agriculture issues while gaining a greater understanding of how food gets from their land to their plate.



What's Happening with Bella at BRIT...

Join Bella for an interactive read-aloud of *Up, Down, and Around* and family-friendly activities that provide fun explorations of art, nature, and science!

Bella's Story Time: Saturday, April 2 (10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.) - Free

Bella's Book Club: Tuesday, April 5 (10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.) - \$10 per family or free to BRIT Members

For more information, please contact [Kimberly Whitlock](#) at 817.546.1958.



...And in the Community

FWISD's Morningside, Carroll Peak, and Briscoe Elementary Schools welcomed Bella and the "Seasons of Stories, Seasons of Science" strategies and curriculum to their campuses in March. This child-centered approach to learning provides experiences that grow literacy, science, and math skills at school and at home. *The Dandelion Seed* by Joseph P. Anthony gave children the opportunity to explore and learn about the dandelion's life cycle and its parts. Connecting botany to physics, students also explored the wind and things that can fly! Bella plans to take literacy, math, art, and science to these same sites during April and May.

We are Agents of Change

#ExplorationEveryday

Thank you to all Green Revolution supporters using the hashtag **#ExplorationEveryday**. You are truly inspiring the next generation of environmental leaders to explore their own environment. This can be seen in the many photos posted to the Green Revolution [Facebook page](#). While visiting our Facebook page you will also notice the addition of new faces from Forest Oak Middle School, which is now implementing the Green Revolution Agent Curriculum after school on their campus. This new addition is only one of many new beginnings for Green Revolution this month. And check back with us as we report on our trip to Camp El Tesoro for Green Revolution's annual Exploration Camp.



Pollinator Math

The Room was BUZZZZing!



Teacher Tuesday geared up for a true March Madness Math experience with our friends the pollinators. Jacqueline Weilmuenster, Assistant Professor at University of Texas of Arlington, and Dr. Heather Peace, Mathematics Educator from Fort Worth Country Day, connected mathematic concepts with the pollinators. Teachers engaged with ideas designed to connect the behavior of pollinators with different core mathematical concepts, ranging from telling time to calculating vectors.



Underground World of Mushrooms

Saturday, May 7, 8:30 a.m. – noon

BRIT is pleased to announce that Dr. Denis Benjamin, BRIT Resident Research Associate and author of two popular works on mushrooms (*Mushrooms: Poisons and Panaceas* [1995] and *Musings of a Mushroom Hunter* [2010]), will be reprising his popular workshop "The Underground World of Mushrooms" on Saturday, May 7. This half-day workshop will introduce participants to the wide variety of mushrooms that exist in our own backyard, the Cross Timbers ecosystem of North Central Texas. Sign up quickly since space is limited! For more information about this class, please visit our [webpage](#).



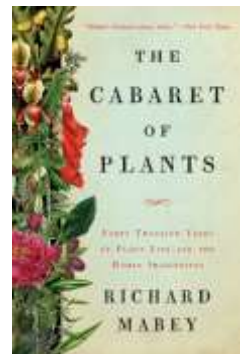
[Register Here](#)

\$10 members/\$15 non-members

Come Read with Us!

The BRIT Reads Book Club, which has its first meeting on Monday, April 18, from noon – 1 p.m., is pleased to announce its reading list for 2016. Read them all, pick just a few, or, if you're pressed for time, skip the reading all together and just join us for the conversation.

- April 18 – *The Cabaret of Plants*, Richard Mabey
- May 16 – *Goodbye to a River: A Narrative*, John Graves
- June 2 – *The Dirty Life: On Farming, Food, and Love*, Kristin Kimball
- July 18 – *The Worst Hard Time: The Untold Story of Those Who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl*, Timothy Egan
- No August Meeting
- September 19 – *Musings of a Mushroom Hunter*, Denis Benjamin
- October 17 – *Wicked Plants*, Amy Stewart
- November 21 – *What a Plant Knows: A Field Guide to the Senses*, Daniel Chamovitz



A limited number of these books will be available for checkout from the BRIT Library. They are also available through online retailers, Barnes and Noble, and the Fort Worth Public Library. For more information about the BRIT Reads Book Club, please contact [Laura Venhaus](#) at 817.332.4441, ext. 259.



CELEBRATE THE PRAIRIE MAY 14 BRIT'S PRAIRIE DAY

Celebrate the beauty of the native landscape of North Texas! Join us for a full day of family-friendly arts and crafts, flight demonstrations of majestic birds, examples of slithering snakes, and (new this year) the **Bat World Sanctuary!** Don't miss the shows as we learn where bats live, what bats eat, and why bats take flight in the evenings.



Enjoy live music while visiting different booths, have a balloon animal made for your child, or even have your faces painted. Other entertainment includes the presentations "**Birds of Prey**" and "**Live Encounters with Native Snakes.**" You can also take a guided tour of our BRIT building or a guided nature walk. With so many things to explore, you are sure to work up an appetite, so plan to stop by one of our local food trucks!

Many thanks to this year's sponsors: Joann Karges, Rachel Ledbetter, Carole Findlay, [Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo](#), [Frost Bank](#), Victor Medina & Family, [Rahr & Sons Brewing Company](#), and Dora Sylvester.



Prairie Day - Saturday, May 14, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

See our [website](#) for a full schedule.

Research Exhibit & Researcher Seminar Series

BRIT Collections: The Hidden Gardens of BRIT

Join us on May 18 for "BRIT Collections: The Hidden Gardens of BRIT," a unique exhibit designed for visitors to learn more about BRIT's valuable collections that are open to the public. Visitors will see dried and pressed specimens from various subsections of the BRIT herbarium, examples of the various digital collections currently housed at BRIT, and specimens from our Mycology and Bryology collections. The exhibit will also have a display on several rare and important books from the library collection.



In addition to this exhibit, we hope you will be able to join us for one or all of the special BRIT Researcher Seminars that will occur during late April and May from noon - 1 p.m. in the BRIT Commons. Please visit our [website](#) to learn more about these presentations.

Corporate Membership Opportunities

[Calloway's Nursery](#) / [Marshall Grain Co.](#) / [Redenta's Garden](#) / [The Tree Place](#)

Remember to bring your BRIT membership card for your discounts when shopping!

Does your organization need to get connected in our community? We can help! There are a number of ways you can be involved through BRIT. Consider becoming a [Reciprocal Partner](#) or a [Corporate Member](#) of BRIT! For additional information on these membership programs, please contact [Tammie Crole](#) at 817.332.7518.

APRIL

2nd - Bella Story Time; public tour; plant ID
2nd - Urban Agriculture Day at BRIT
3rd - Last day for Butterflies in the Garden
4th - Rain barrel sale ends
5th - Brown Bag: Amy Hays, Hugh Aljoe, & Mike Proctor
5th - Bella Book & Nature Club
9th - Rain barrel pickup day (9-noon)
12th - Visiting Researcher Seminar: Mr. Tim Boland
18th - BRIT Reads Book Club
19th - Teacher Tuesday
26th - Brown Bag: Dwayne Estes
Every Thursday - BRIT tours at 1:30 p.m.

MAY

3rd - Brown Bag: Dan Caudle
3rd - Bella Book & Nature Club
7th - Bella Story Time; public tour; plant ID; Mycology Class
10th - Brown Bag: Denis Benjamin
14th - BRIT's Prairie Day
16th - BRIT Reads Book Club
17th - Brown Bag: Brooke Best
18th - Research Exhibit opens
19th - Visiting Researcher Seminar: Courtney Kilgore
24th - Brown Bag: Jason Best, Tiana Rehman, & Peter Fritsch
31st - Brown Bag: Peter Fritsch
Every Thursday - BRIT tours at 1:30 p.m.

Additional information can be found at brit.org.

Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT)

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Open Tuesday to Friday from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

First Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. – noon (April–October)

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Please email Tammie Crole at tcrole@BRIT.org to receive the Leaflet by email.