BOO at the ZOO

BATON ROUGE, LA.—BREC’s Baton Rouge Zoo will host its 24th Annual in-house Boo at the Zoo on October 17, 18, 24 and 25 – Presented by Hancock Whitney Bank. This merry, not scary trick-or-treat extravaganza began in 1996 and has grown to become one of Baton Rouge’s most popular Halloween events. This year, in light of COVID-19 safety concerns, a multitude of changes will take place to keep guests as safe as possible, while enabling a family tradition to continue. Those modifications include:

- The Zoo will be pre-packaging treat bags for all children ages 12 and under to collect upon exiting their Zoo adventure. There will not be treat stations around the Zoo, as in the past. This is being done to prevent crowding & eliminate additional touchpoints.

- Protective face masks are not required for guests to enjoy the Zoo, but are certainly encouraged. Masks must be worn to enter the gift shop and restrooms.

- The most creative face masks will be posted on the Zoo’s Facebook page for fan voting. The guest wearing the most admired mask will win an Annual Friends of the Zoo Membership.

- Halloween costumes continue to be encouraged for all attendees.

- Social distancing will be enacted with a one-way path through the Zoo, as well as frequent signage reminders.

- Traditional Fall & Halloween themed structures & pumpkins will be sprinkled throughout the zoo for festive photo opportunities.

- Holiday-themed enrichments will be provided to the Zoo’s animal friends throughout the day.

- The Hay Maze will continue to be available for $1, however, masks will be required to enter and a maximum of 10 individuals will be allowed in at one time.

- The Zoo will offer regular café service, as well as additional vendor-sold refreshments in the Food Court. The dining area will be spaced appropriately and sanitized often.

Admission gates will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Zoo grounds close at 5 p.m. Regular Zoo admission applies, free for members. For more information on Boo at the Zoo, please visit http://www.brzoo.org/events/special/boo-at-the-zoo/ or call (225) 775-3877.

About BREC’s Baton Rouge Zoo
BREC’s Baton Rouge Zoo is a place where people connect with animals, including tigers, giraffes, rhinos and alligators. The world-class Realm of the Tiger, Flamingo Cove, Giants of the Islands, Safari Playground, L’aquarium de Louisiane, and KidsZoo exhibits offer fun and education for all ages.

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Halloween and Covid-19: Have Fun While Staying Safe

Choosing costumes, decorating pumpkins, and getting special treats brings joy to many children at Halloween. Some Halloween traditions may look different this year to keep everyone safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, there are still plenty of ways families can have fun while avoiding the scare of being exposed to or spreading the virus.

Most importantly, keep doing what you have been doing: avoiding large gatherings, keeping a distance of six feet from others, wearing cloth face coverings (think superhero!), and washing hands often. Some ideas for ways to keep safety steps in place while celebrating:

**Virtual costume parties & parades**

![Halloween Virtual Party](image)

Use video chats for an online party with friends and family and show off costumes and play games. Have fun with it! In cold climates, this may be the first time your child can wear a costume that isn't buried under a parka! Outdoor costume parades are another option, if it is possible for everyone to stay at least 6 feet apart and wear cloth face coverings.

If children plan to use their cloth face coverings as part of their costumes, they should not paint them since some paints contain toxins.

*Remember a costume mask is not a substitute for a cloth face covering unless it has multiple layers of breathable fabric and covers the mouth and nose snugly.*

**Outdoor community events**

Look for community events focused on safe ways to have fun. These may include programs offered by a park district, arboretum, zoo or other outdoor venues in your area. Stay away from crowds and clustering, and follow safe distance rules even when outdoors.

Avoid indoor events such as haunted houses. A local haunted forest or corn maze may be a better option, as long as cloth face covering use, physical distancing and one-way walk through is enforced. If you think there may be screaming, leave extra distance to lower the risk of spreading respiratory virus. If you go to a pumpkin patch or apple orchard, also use hand sanitizer before and after touching what you pick.

If your children will be outside, mark their costumes with reflective tape. Remind them to be careful around cars, as drivers may not see them. Make sure shoes fit well and costumes are short enough to prevent tripping or contact with flames.

**Spooky movie night**

Celebrate with a movie night and dress as your favorite characters. Do this as a family at home or consider letting your child watch with their friends while video chatting, with everyone starting the movie at the same time.

**Decorating pumpkins**

This is one Halloween tradition that's as safe and fun as ever. As always, just be careful to avoid pumpkin carving injuries. Children can draw a face with markers. Then parents can do the cutting. When the carving is done, consider putting a battery-operated light rather than an open-flame candle inside. Roast the seeds from the pumpkin for a healthy snack!
Halloween and Covid-19: Have Fun While Staying Safe (continued)

Halloween-themed treats

Make some fun Halloween treats as a family. Decorate a pizza with toppings in the shape of a jack-o'-lantern, for example, or make tangerine pumpkins (peel the tangerine and stick a thin slice of celery on top to look like a stem). Make sure the treats are not choking hazards if you have children under age 3.

If there is trick-or-treating in your community...

Trick-or-treating may be discouraged or cancelled in some areas this year. A family scavenger hunt for treats in your home or yard can be a fun alternative. If trick-or-treating is still on in your neighborhood, avoid large groups or clustering at doorsteps or anywhere else. If you hand out treats, consider sitting outside and lining up individually prepacked treat bags for families to take (don't forget to wear your own mask!). Non-edible treats are a good option, especially for children who suffer from food allergies.

How much touching objects spreads the COVID-19 virus isn't clear. But if your child collects treats from a few, socially distanced neighbors, you may want to wipe the packages or let them sit for a couple days before giving them to your child. And, of course, good hand hygiene like washing hands or using hand sanitizer before and after trick-or-treating is always a good idea!

Remember

Halloween during the COVID-19 pandemic is a chance for you and your children to get creative, and maybe even invent some new traditions for your family! It's also a great opportunity to model flexibility and a positive spirit. If you're excited and make it fun, your kids will have fun, too.

More importantly, this is a good time to teach children the importance of protecting not just themselves but others, as well. The decisions we make on this one day can have a ripple effect beyond our own families. Finding safe ways to celebrate can create magical memories.

SOURCE: American Academy of Pediatrics

Trick or Treating Hours for East Baton Rouge Parish

BATON ROUGE, LA — Trick-or-treat hours for the City of Baton Rouge and East Baton Rouge Parish are set for 6:00-8:00 p.m. Saturday, October 31, 2020.

Police Chief Murphy Paul and the Baton Rouge Police Department, along with Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome, offer the following Halloween safety tips for children and families:

- Never allow children to trick-or-treat without adult supervision.
- Always stay in groups.
- Use sidewalks and stay out of the street whenever possible.
- Wear reflective clothing or bright costumes.
- Trick-or-treat only in familiar neighborhoods.
- Do not allow children to eat any candy or treats until thoroughly checked by an adult.
- Drivers are asked to slow down and be especially alert in residential neighborhoods.
- Call police if any suspicious activity occurs, or if candy is suspected to be tainted.
- Residents are urged to hand out only manufactured, sealed candy.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN
# Using your EBR Chromebook at Home:
## Technical Issues and Solutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the issue is...</th>
<th>Try this solution...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cannot connect to home wifi</td>
<td>- Check Network Security Settings on your home router/modem. If you need assistance with this, please contact your Internet Service Provider.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Cannot log in | - Make sure you are connected to your home Wifi or hotspot.  
- Verify student's log in credentials with your school.  
- If issue persists, contact your school's principal. |
| Screen or Display is not working | - *Restart your Chromebook* by holding down the power button.  
- If issue persists, contact your school's principal for a replacement. |
| Keyboard not working | - *Restart your Chromebook* by holding down the power button.  
- If issue persists, contact your school's principal for a replacement. |
| Chromebook not Charging | - Verify that power cable is properly plugged into the power brick and the wall.  
- Verify that the charging port is properly plugged into the Chromebook.  
- If issue persists, contact your school's principal for a replacement Chromebook AND replacement charger. |

**Damaged or Broken Chromebook**

This includes, but is not limited to missing keys, cracked screens, cracked casing, damaged USB ports, damaged headphone ports, damaged charging ports. Schools have policies and procedures to handle this issue. Please contact your school's principal.

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## Additional Resources

1. Sign out of your Chromebook.
2. Press `ESC + ⌘ + ⌥` and wait for the screen to change
3. Press `CTRL + D` and wait for the screen to change
4. Press the Spacebar and wait for the screen to change
5. Press `ENTER`  
   *If your Chromebook says the process is taking longer than usual, contact your school's principal for a replacement Chromebook*

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**How to Reset your Chromebook**

[Chromebook Support at Google](http://Support.Google.com/Chromebook)

Submit an IT HELPDESK Ticket at [https://helpdesk.ebrschools.org](https://helpdesk.ebrschools.org)
Introducing Parent University

Parent University was created as a supplemental strategy to build the capacity of parents to be actively engaged in their child’s education.

The goal of the program is to "educate and empower parents as partners, advocates, and lifelong teachers in their child's education through educational courses and leadership opportunities."

PLEASE CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW TO ACCESS THE PARENT UNIVERSITY WEBPAGE WHERE YOU CAN FIND RECORDED SESSIONS

https://sites.google.com/d/1zwly9_5wQnoM35b4Ys8LHw5IN28hawy7/p/1mps2Hz6QwYhijm_od2nj8ZyiZtv2XWwDq/edit
Computers for Louisiana Families

Does your family need a computer?

If you qualify for our CLF program, the Capital Area Corporate Recycling Council can help!

We offer specially priced computers and laptops for lower income households. Bring in your current Driver’s License or State ID, along with one of the following:

- Medicaid Card
- Food Stamp Card
- Unemployment or Disability Information
- Veteran’s VA Card
- Proof of age 62 or above
- 501c3 (LANO Members and NPOs)

The CACRC’s Computers for Louisiana’s Families program offers low-cost refurbished computers with a Microsoft Windows 7 Operating System and additional software pre-installed. More information can be found on our flyer. If you qualify, and would like to print out an application, please click the link below:

http://www.computersforfamilies.org/flyer.htm

All computer systems include the following software: Internet Explorer, Firefox, Open Office Suite, Avast Anti-virus, and Adobe Acrobat Reader.

Cox Connect2Compete

Affordable home internet

- Home internet is now an essential tool for today’s education.
- Through Connect2Compete, Cox opens a world of opportunity for families by providing low-cost, home internet with wifi—for only $9.95 per month.

https://www.cox.com/residential/internet/connect2compete.html
Shape your teen’s mindset to increase success in school

Some things may come easily to your teen in this new school year, and others may not. Research shows that the way your teen views his achievements and challenges can affect his success both in high school and beyond.

Help your teen trade fixed ideas about how smart he is, and how good a student he is (or is not), for a “growth mindset.” This is the belief that he can always learn more, get smarter and do better.

To encourage a growth mindset, keep these dos and don’ts in mind:

- **If your teen is struggling:** Suggest that he try different strategies to attack the problem. Help him see a challenge as a chance for intellectual growth. Don’t just say, “Try harder.”

- **If your teen is succeeding:** Discuss and praise what he did that led to his success. Did he study longer? Or learn a new method for solving a problem? Don’t suggest his success is because he’s smart.

- **If your teen brings home a poor grade:** Encourage him to think about how he prepared and what else he could try? Always suggest that he can do better next time. Don’t get upset.

Whatever level of success your teen is experiencing, encourage him to raise the bar by setting new learning goals and planning ways to meet them. Tell him that learning is a process, and he’s on the way to achieving his goals.

Studies show the more parents engage with and nurture their children at home, the better those youngsters do when they start school. Here are five simple ways to build important skills and promote learning:

1. **Play together.** Don’t ignore the value of having fun! Spend time playing games and solving jigsaw puzzles. Dress up in old clothes and put on a silly show together. Stack a tower of blocks. Crank up the radio and sing.

2. **Be creative.** Activities like squishing clay, coloring and finger-painting aren’t just fun—they’re educational! So let your child get messy sometimes. It could boost her school smarts.

3. **Cuddle.** Hugs and snuggles are more than a cozy way to bond. They’re also a way to make your child feel loved and safe. The more secure she feels at home, the more confident she may be when she heads to school.

4. **Get active.** Healthy bodies nourish healthy minds! Go on walks with your child. Play catch outside. Go down the slide at the park. Skip rope. And when you’re finished, share a healthy snack and chat about how much fun you had.

5. **Connect.** Introduce yourself to your child’s preschool teacher or day care provider. Ask your child questions about what she is learning and doing every day. The more she knows learning matters to you, the more it will matter to her!


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**Arm your middle schooler with effective study habits**

Students need strong study skills to be successful in middle school—and parents play a significant role in helping their children develop them. The study skills middle schoolers learn now will help them succeed today, in high school and beyond.

To lay groundwork for your child’s academic success:

- **Have your child estimate** how long a homework assignment or project will take and plan her study time accordingly. Then, have her use a timer to see if her estimates are accurate. This will help her make adjustments for future assignments, if necessary.

- **Increase her self-awareness.** Ask your child to figure out when she’s at her best. Then encourage her to do most of her homework and studying during those times. If she needs to let off some steam after school, encourage her to go for a run or a brisk walk before sitting down.

- **Turn off the television.** Don’t buy your child’s argument that TV is “just background noise.” Make sure homework time is free from all distractions.

- **Promote organization.** Help her create a system to keep track of important assignments. It might be file folders, a color-coded binder or a desk calendar.
October 2020

- October 12th-13th: Fall Break (No School for Students and Employees)
- October 14th: End of 1st Nine Weeks
- October 29th: End of 2nd Six Weeks
- October 31st: Happy Halloween
The East Baton Rouge Parish School System and all of its entities (including Career and Technical Education Programs) do not discriminate on the basis of age, race, religion, national origin, disability or gender in its educational programs and activities (including employment and application for employment), and it is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of gender by Title IX (20 USC 168) and on the basis of disability by Section 504 (42 USC 794). The Title IX Coordinator is Andrew Davis, Director of Risk Management (ADavis6@ebrschools.org) - phone (225) 929-8705. The Section 504 Coordinator is Elizabeth Taylor Chapman, Director of Exceptional Student Services (ETaylor@ebrschools.org) – phone (225) 929-8600. The Title II Coordinator is Dr. Sandra Horton, Administrative Director of Federal Programs (SBHorton@ebrschools.org) – phone (225) 922-5538.

All students have an opportunity to participate in Career & Technical Programs of Study including, but not limited to, areas of Health Care, Construction Crafts & Trades, Automotive Technology, IT Computer Technology, IT Computer Technology, Culinary Programs, Criminal Justice and Agriculture. Admission requirements for each course can be found in the student course guide/schedule packet of the individual campus where the course is being offered. Please contact the Guidance Counselor at the specific school site for additional information, program requirements and/or any questions you may have.

Parent Power is a publication of the East Baton Rouge Parish School System

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