

Jane Taylor, Director of Education and Outreach



Jane Taylor, @HTownRobotDiva, is the founder of the Bot Shop LLC and Tech It Out MakerSpace-Houston. She is currently the Director of Education and Outreach for FIRST in Texas. Jane's passion for Robotics began in 2001 when she decided to coach her rookie after-school team to compete in *FIRST*[®] LEGO[®] League's MISSION TO MARS.

Jane has been instrumental in creating a robotics learning community for educators and learners for over ten years. Jane taught middle school science in Houston Independent School District (HISD) after graduating from Lamar University in 2000 with a Bachelor of Science. In 2009 she stepped out of the classroom to create the Tech It Out

Robotics camp. Tech It Out Robotics is committed to using the motivational value of robots to offer challenging yet fun, hands-on minds-on adventures, clinics, and out-of-school time classes that increase learners' skills and content in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.

She earned her Master's in Education from the University of St. Thomas. As a Master Trainer for LEGO[®] Education Academy, she traveled to over 33 states instructing teachers on the most effective way for using robots in the classrooms and competitions. She currently serves as a Tech Policy Fellow for Google, education consultant, and area coordinator for competitive robotics and drone programs. These include the All Earth Ecobots, *FIRST* LEGO League, and *FIRST* LEGO Jr., to name a few. She has been instrumental in creating professional robotics learning communities for *FIRST* LEGO[®] League and *FIRST* Tech Challenge nationally since 2004. Over the last 17 years, she has served as a coach, mentor, host, and cheerleader for *FIRST* Robotics in Houston.