

# WELCOME!



On behalf of Splash! Publications, we would like to welcome you to *Texas Geography*, one of several books in our State History series. Since this curriculum was designed by teachers, we are positive you will find it to be the most comprehensive program you have ever utilized to teach students about Texas's geography. We would like to take a few moments to familiarize you with the program.

## THE FORMAT

*Texas Geography* is an eight lesson program that takes students on a journey through the five regions of the United States before bringing them home to Texas's regions, Texas's rivers and lakes, and Texas's points of interest. Our goal is to provide a curriculum that you can use the very first day you purchase our materials. There are no lessons to plan, comprehension questions to write, activities to create, or vocabulary words to define. Simply open the book and start teaching.

Each of the eight lessons requires students to complete vocabulary cards, read about a geography topic, and complete Reading comprehension and Language skills activities that will expose them to various standardized test formats. In addition, each lesson includes a balanced mix of lower and higher level activities for students to complete. Vocabulary quizzes, thought-provoking discussion questions, mapping activities utilizing cardinal and intermediate directions, latitude/longitude, grid systems, and number coordinates, creating color-coded maps, and designing a travel brochure are the types of activities that will guide students on their journey through *Texas Geography*.

## THE LESSON PLANS

On the next several pages, you will find the Lesson Plans for *Texas Geography*. The Lesson Plans clearly outline what students must do before, during, and after each lesson. Page numbers are listed so that you will immediately know what you need to photocopy before beginning each lesson. The answers to all activities, quizzes, and comprehension questions can be found on pages 100-107.

## THE VOCABULARY

Each lesson features words in bold type. We have included a Glossary on pages 95-99 to help students pronounce and define the words. Unlike a dictionary, the definitions in the Glossary are concise and written in context. Remember, we're teachers! Students will be exposed to these vocabulary words in the comprehension activities. They will also be tested on the vocabulary words five times throughout their study of *Texas Geography*.

Students will be responsible for filling out and studying the vocabulary cards. You may want to have students bring in a small box for storing their vocabulary cards. We don't have to tell you that incorporating these words into your Reading and Spelling programs will save time and make the words more meaningful for students.

# TEXAS ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS IN SOCIAL STUDIES

*Texas Geography* was designed to align with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills in Social Studies. These standards serve as a framework for Texas Social Studies curricula by providing student performance expectations in the areas of History, Geography, Economics, Government, Citizenship, Culture, Science, Technology and Society, and Social Studies Skills. The lesson plans on the following pages clearly list the TEKS standards and how they correlate with each lesson and activity in *Texas Geography*.

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# LESSONS AT A GLANCE



## 1. Before reading the Northeast Region, students will:

- complete Vocabulary Cards for *borders, capital, capitol, colonists, constitution, economy, exhibits, factories, granite, Great Britain, historians, independence, invented, manufacturing, Pilgrims, preserve, refuge, regions, resort, resources, Revolutionary War, wilderness.* (pg. 1)

After reading the Northeast Region (pps. 2-3), (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A, 7A, 7B; ECONOMICS 10B, 11B) students will:

- answer the Northeast Region Reading Comprehension Questions. (pg. 4) (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A, 7A, 7B; SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 22B, 22C)
- complete Northeast Regions discussion questions. (pg. 5) (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 7B; ECONOMICS 14C; SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 24A, 22B, 23C)
- use cardinal and intermediate directions to plot points of interest on a New England states map. (pps. 6-9) (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A, 6B; SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 22C)
- use latitude/longitude to plot points of interest on a Middle Atlantic states map. (pps. 10-14) (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A, 6B; SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 22C)

## 2. Before reading the Middle West Region, students will:

- complete Vocabulary Cards for *aviation, canals, minerals, petroglyphs.* (pg. 1)

After reading the Middle West Region (pps. 15-16), (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A, 7A, 7B; ECONOMICS 10B, 11B) students will:

- answer the Middle West Region Reading Comprehension Questions. (pg. 17) (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A, 7A, 7B; SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 22B)
- complete discussion questions for the Middle West Region. (pg. 18) (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 7B; ECONOMICS 14C; SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 24A, 22B, 23C)
- use number/letter pairs to plot historic sites on a Great Lakes states map. (pps. 19-21) (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A, 6B; SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 22C)
- use a grid system to locate state parks on a Great Plains states map. (pps. 22-24) (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A, 6B; SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 22C)
- take a Vocabulary Quiz for Texas Geography Part I. (pps. 25-26) (TEKS: SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 23A)



# LESSONS AT A GLANCE



## 3. Before reading the Southeast Region, students will:

- complete Vocabulary Cards for *Civil War, climate, destructive, industries, island, limestone, military, North America, prehistoric, profitable, straits, tourism, variety, vertical*. (pg. 1)

After reading the Southeast Region (pps. 27-28), (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A, 7A, 7B; ECONOMICS 10B, 11B) students will:

- answer the Southeast Region Reading Comprehension Questions. (pg. 29) (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A, 7A, 7B)
- complete discussion questions for the Southeast Region. (pg. 30) (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 7B; ECONOMICS 10A, 10B; SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 22B)
- use cardinal and intermediate directions to plot points of interest on a Southeast states map. (pps. 31-34) (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A, 6B; SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 22C)

## 4. Before reading the Southwest Region, students will:

- complete Vocabulary Cards for *annual, arid, boundary, endangered, founders, gorge, humid, inhabited, livestock, monument, nuclear, precipitation, pueblo, rodeo, sagebrush, species*. (pg. 1)

After reading the Southwest Region (pps. 35-36), (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A, 7A, 7B, 8B, 8D, 9A; ECONOMICS 10B, 11B) students will:

- answer the Southwest Region Reading Comprehension Questions. (pg. 37) (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A, 7A, 7B; SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 23A)
- complete discussion questions for the Southwest Region. (pg. 38) (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 7B, 13A; ECONOMICS 11A, 14A; SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 23C)
- use latitude/longitude to plot points of interest on a Southwest states map. (pps. 39-43) (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A, 6B; SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 22C)
- take a Vocabulary Quiz for Texas Geography Part II. (pps. 44-45) (TEKS: SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 23A)



# LESSONS AT A GLANCE



5. Before reading the West Region, students will:

- complete Vocabulary Cards for *autobiography, biographies, completion, culture, dwellings, erupt, extends, fertile, formations, fossil, geysers, glacier, inlet, legend, mammals, mountainous, reptiles, saloons, theory, transcontinental, treaty, unique, volcanic, weary.* (pg. 1)

After reading the West Region (pps. 46-47), students will:

- answer the West Region Reading Comprehension Questions. (pg. 48)  
(TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A, 7A, 7B; SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 22C)
- complete discussion questions for the West Region. (pg. 49) (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 7B, 7C; ECONOMICS 14C; SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 22B, 23C)
- use cardinal and intermediate directions to plot points of interest on a Mountain states map. (pps. 50-54) (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A, 6B; SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 22C)
- use number coordinates to plot national parks and monuments on a Pacific states map. (pps. 55-57) (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A, 6B; SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 22C)
- differentiate between primary and secondary sources. (pg. 58)  
(TEKS: SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 22A)
- take a Vocabulary Quiz for Texas Geography Part III. (pps. 59-60)  
(TEKS: SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 23A)

6. Before reading Regions of Texas, students will:

- complete Vocabulary Cards for *balconies, barren, basin, elevations, erosion, escarpment, faulting, harvested, irrigation, lagoons, mimic, mohair, panhandle, petroleum, populated, prairie, reservoir, salt marshes, sand bars, sorghum, terrains, tumbleweeds.* (pg. 1)

After reading Regions of Texas (pps. 61-63), (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A, 7A, 7B, 7C, 8D 9A, 9B; ECONOMICS 13A, 13B, 13 C, 13D, 13E, 14B) students will:

- answer Regions of Texas Reading Comprehension Questions & complete Language Skills Activity. (pps. 64-65) (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A, 7B; SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 22B, 22C, 23A, 23E)
- label and describe each of Texas's three regions on a Texas map. (pps. 66-67)  
(TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A, 7B; SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 22B, 22C, 23A, 23E)



# LESSONS AT A GLANCE



## 7. Before reading Water Resources, students will:

- complete Vocabulary Cards for *bays, channels, recreation, shallow*. (pg. 1)

After reading Water Resources (pps. 68-71), (GEOGRAPHY 6A, 7B, 8A, 8C, 8D, 9A, 9B; ECONOMICS 13A 13B, 13C, 13D, 13E, 14B) students will:

- answer Water Resources Reading Comprehension Questions & complete Language Skills Activity. (pps. 72-73) (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A, 9A; SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 23A, 23E)
- label Texas's water resources on Texas maps. (pps. 74-76) (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A, 6B; SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 22C, 23E)
- take a Vocabulary Quiz for Texas Geography Part IV. (pps. 77-78) (TEKS: SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 23A)

## 8. Before reading Points of Interest, students will:

- complete Vocabulary Cards for *aeronautics, ancient, artifacts, barrier island, cultural, dissolved, domed, dunes, established, evidence, expositions, federal government, flint, frontier, gondola, Ice Age, missionaries, missions, mounds, native, outlaw, pioneer, quarries, theme, urban, worshipped*. (pg. 1)

After reading Points of Interest (pps. 79-87), (GEOGRAPHY 6A, 7B, 8C, 9A, 9B, 9C; ECONOMICS 10A, 10B, 11B, 13A, 13B, 13C, 13D) students will:

- answer Points of Interest Reading Comprehension Questions and complete Language Skills Activity. (pps. 88-89) (TEKS: GEOGRAPHY 6A; SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 22B, 22C, 23E)
- follow written directions to design a Texas Travel Brochure. (pps. 90-91) (TEKS: SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 23D, 23E)
- differentiate between primary and secondary sources. (pg. 92) (TEKS: SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 22A)
- take a Vocabulary Quiz for Texas Geography Part V. (pps. 93-94) (TEKS: SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS 23A)

