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in the

A **S**TATE of the **U**NION
5-PART Series

CALIFORNIA

FLORIDA

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Presents

TEXAS

A
STATE of the **U**NION



INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDE

INTRODUCTION TO SERIES

The purpose of A State of the Union video series is to provide students with a more comprehensive understanding of the geography, history, and important developments of each state. Especially designed to appeal to younger viewers and closely aligned with state education guidelines, each up-to-date program covers early state history, geographic significance, capital city, state government, famous citizens and the role of education and industry to the states vitality.

As a complementary device with each video, an instructional guide suggests exercises to help teachers, parents and students. These interactive exercises will reinforce and further develop a student's level of comprehension.

The instructional guide provides:

Vocabulary !

Chronology !

People & Places !

Q & A !

Discussion Points / Activities !

Geography !

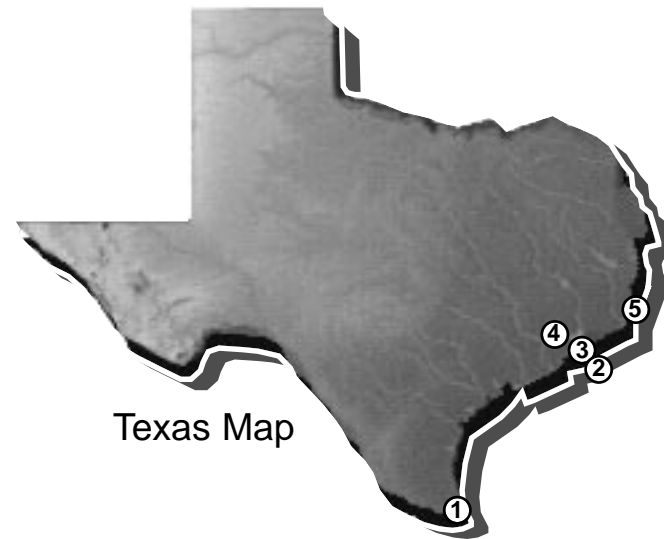
**Permission granted to copy the exercises provided in this guide.
For educational use ONLY.**

The video mentions 5 major city ports in Texas. On the solid black line, write the port city which matches the number on the Texas Map. Use the Answers List

ANSWERS LISTS:

Houston
Brownsville
Galveston
Beaumont
Texas City

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____
- 5) _____

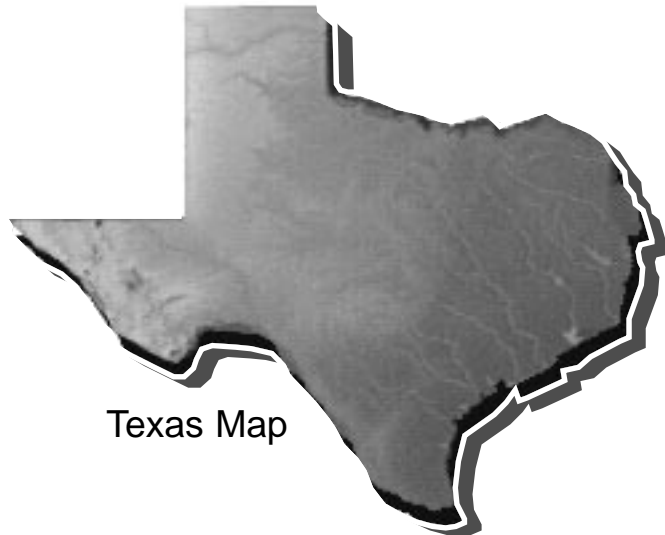


Letters A thru C describe three Texas Cities.
Write the name of that city on the solid black line.
Then with a Black Marker write the letter **A**, **B** or **C** to indicate where on the Texas Map each city is located.

A) Is the capital city of Texas _____

B) Where NASA's headquarters is located

C) In 1835, Davy Crockett along with 200 Texan rebels tried to defend the Alamo in this historic Texas City _____



Texas Map



The state of Texas is bigger than Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan & Wisconsin combined. Bordered by 4 states, the country of Mexico & the body of water called the Gulf of Mexico, Texas is home to over 17 million people with many living in major metropolitan areas. Texas boasts the 4th most populated city in the U.S.

Originally part of the Empire of Mexico, early Texas settlement and independence was both hard fought and costly. Stephen Austin fulfilled his fathers vision of establishing an American colony in the Spanish territory and soon more Americans lived there than Mexicans. Differences between cultures and language led to unrest and ultimately to revolution. Austin, was officially established as the state capital in the 1850's and construction of the capitol building began. After a disastrous fire a new capitol was built. The city of Austin is a dynamic and healthy community, home to the Texas state government and to one of the premier education institutions in North America, the University of Texas. Texas' growth has been closely aligned with its commerce and industry. In 1901 "black gold" or oil was discovered and changed Texas forever. Today aerospace, chemicals and electronics industries help to keep the Texas economy competitive and vital.

With its diverse geography Texas is a beautiful state but it's the people of Texas that really make it the great state it is today. Some of the nations best known individuals have their roots in Texas reflecting the diversity of the citizens and the proud and independent spirit we've come to appreciate as Texas.

VOCABULARY of TEXAS

ALAMO: Originally a Spanish mission located in San Antonio, where 200 Texan Rebels including Davy Crockett, defended the city against the invasion of 2,000 Mexican troops. During the 13 day battle all the Texan rebels were killed along with more than 500 Mexican troops. About a month after this brutal battle, Texans won the war (Texas Revolution 1835) and became an independent country which was then known as the Republic of Texas.

AUSTIN: Capital city of Texas, located in the south central part of the state on the Colorado River, and is about 160 miles northwest of Houston.

BARBARA C. JORDAN: First African American woman from a Southern state to serve in the U.S. Congress.

BLACK GOLD: In 1901, a new resource was discovered in Texas - "Black Gold" also known as oil.

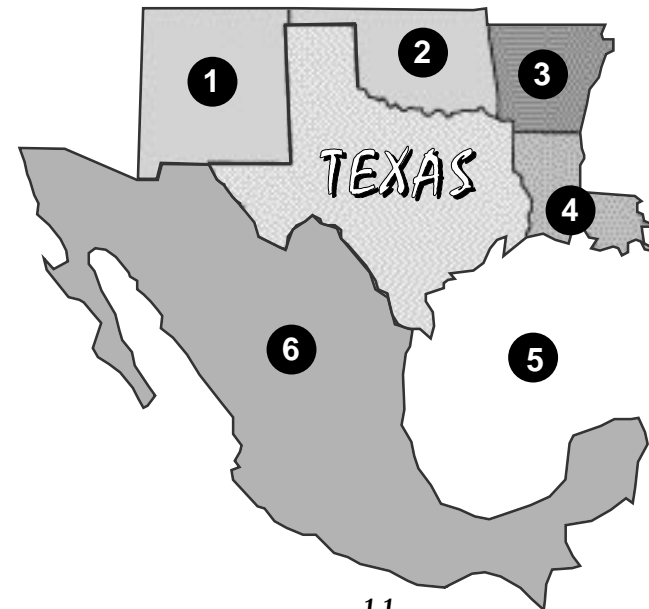
EXECUTIVE BRANCH: One of three branches of the Texas state government. Headed by the Governor of Texas, the executive branch enforces the laws of the state. The Governor serves a 4 year term and is elected by the people of Texas.

JUDICIAL BRANCH: One of three branches of the Texas state government. The judicial branch applies the laws for each individual case. This branch refers to both the judges and courts including the Texas State Supreme Court.

GEOGRAPHY of TEXAS

The State of Texas is bordered by six geographical regions. On the solid black line name each of these bordering regions.

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 1 _____ | 4 _____ |
| 2 _____ | 5 _____ |
| 3 _____ | 6 _____ |



Discussion Points / Activities

1. If possible visit some of the locations in Texas as discussed in the video. For example the remains of the Alamo (San Antonio), the Capitol Building & Extension (Austin), Lyndon Baines Johnson Library & Museum (Austin), NASA Center (Houston) or other significant places as noted in the video.
2. Draw a map (if you like, use a computer or the map provided on page 12 or 13) of Texas, indicating significant points of interest. For example, the capital city, i.e. Austin, important events, i.e. the Battle of the Alamo 1835 (San Antonio), or NASA Center (Houston).
3. In 1835 Texas became an independent country known as the Republic of Texas. Discuss what the new Texas leaders had to do to develop and organize this new Republic: For example, elect public officials to legislate, enforce and apply laws, otherwise known as the three branches of state government: Legislative, Executive and Judicial; select a location for the new state capital; design a new flag; etc. .

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH: One of three branches of the Texas state government. The legislative branch makes the laws of the state. This branch includes the Texas Senate of which there are 31 Senators and the House of Representatives of which there are 150 representatives - all of which were voted into office by the people of Texas.

LONE STAR STATE: After winning independence from Mexico in 1835, the "Republic of Texas" as an independent country designed a flag with a single star on it. That single star represented their independence from all other countries. Because of its single star flag, Texas is now known as the "Lone Star State."

REPUBLIC OF TEXAS: After defeating the Mexican soldiers during the Texas Revolution, Texan rebels won their independence from Mexico and for 10 years became an independent country known as the "Republic of Texas" before joining the United States in 1845.

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN: After his father Moses Austin died in 1821, Stephen Austin (known as the Father of Texas) carried out his father's dream to establish the first American colony in Texas while it was a part of the Empire of Mexico.

TEXAS RANGERS: Originally formed by Stephen Austin in 1826, these "crime fighters" protected settlers who were being attacked by Native American Indians, Mexican Banditos or outlaws. Formally organized in 1835, today these law enforcement officers now serve under the authority of the Texas Department of Public Safety.

TEXAS REVOLUTION: In 1835, war broke out between Texan rebels, fighting for their independence from the Empire of Mexico, and Mexican soldiers.

CHRONOLOGY of TEXAS

- 1821:** Mexico wins independence from Spain and claims Texas as its territory. Soon afterwards, to attract more settlers the Mexican Government offers land grants for people who want to live and work in Texas. Stephen Austin begins to establish the first American Colony in Texas.
- 1826:** Stephen Austin organizes "crime fighters", later known as the "Texas Rangers", to protect American settlers who were being attacked by Native American Indians, Mexican Banditos or outlaws.
- 1830:** Because more Americans than Mexicans begin to settle in Texas, the Mexican government stops further settlement of American Colonies in Texas.
- 1835:** "Texas Rangers" formally organized. War breaks out between the Texan rebels and Mexican Soldiers, starting what is now known as the "Texas Revolution." During this war a 13 day battle occurred at the Alamo, a Spanish mission in San Antonio, where 200 Texas rebels fought against 2,000 Mexican troops. About one month after the attack on the Alamo, the Texans won the war and became an independent country, known as the "Republic of Texas."
- 1839:** Mirabeau B. Lamar, the president for the Republic of Texas, selected the rolling hills surrounding the small town of Waterloo as the Republic's capital. Later this area was renamed Austin after the "Father of Texas" Stephen F. Austin.

Fill in the blank by selecting the words from the answers list:

ANSWERS LIST :

Independent State • United States • Republic of Texas • Alamo • Mexico • Hilltop Plains • Mirabeau B. Lamar • Battle of Texas • Stephen F. Austin • Great Plains • Texas Country • Texas Rebellion • Moses Austin • Grassy Plains

10. A) The 5 main geographic regions within Texas include; Gulf Coastal Plains, Prairie Plains, Rolling Plains, Basin & Range Region and _____ .

B) Prior to its independence in 1835, Texas belonged to _____ .

C) In 1835 during the Texas Revolution, Davy Crockett along with 200 Texan rebels defended the walls of a Spanish mission known as the _____ .

D) About a month after the attack on the Alamo, the Texans won the war. Texas became an independent country and was then known as the _____ .

E) The man who initiated the idea for the "Texas Rangers" and later became known as the "Father of Texas" is _____ .

Q & A for TEXAS

1. Name and define the three branches of the Texas state government?
2. How many members belong to the Texas State Senate and House of Representatives?
3. Who elects the Governor of Texas? How many years does the Texas Governor's term serve? How many terms may a Texas Governor serve?
4. What is "black gold"?
5. Where is the state capital of Texas?
6. What does the "lone star" on the Texas state flag represent?
7. What Texas city did Davy Crockett and 200 other Texas rebels tried to defend behind the walls of the Alamo?
8. Name the president for the Republic of Texas, who in 1839 declared the rolling hills surrounding the small town of Waterloo, (later named Austin after Stephen Austin the "Father of Texas") as the new republic's Capital?
9. Why did Texas rebels declare war on Mexico?

1845: For ten years the Republic of Texas remained an independent country. Finally, Texas joined the United States on December 29, 1845, as the 28th state in the Union.

1848: Although Texas became a part of the United States, the leaders of Mexico never accepted the independence of Texas and years later fought the United States in the Mexican American War. After two years of fierce fighting, Mexico finally gave up its claim to Texas in 1848.

1850's: The first Capitol Building is built.

1856: Governor's mansion built and completed.

1888: A new Capitol Building is constructed after the first Capitol Building burned to the ground.

1901: Oil is discovered in Texas.

1920's: Because of the oil boom, Texas shifts from a farm economy to an urban, industrial economy.

1962: President Kennedy announces Houston to be the headquarters of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

1969: Houston's NASA Center successfully directs the first moon landing during the historic Apollo 11 space flight.

1993: The Capitol Extension is opened to the public. The Extension is made up of underground tunnels which connect the Capitol building to four other state buildings.

PEOPLE of TEXAS

BARBARA C. JORDAN: First African American woman from a Southern state to serve in the U.S. Congress.

DAN RATHER: Television Journalist and writer.

DENTON A. COOLEY: Born in 1920, famous heart surgeon from Houston, Texas, who performed the first successful human heart transplant.

FRANK ROBINSON: Famous baseball player

HOWARD HUGHES: Was considered one of the richest people in the world.

LYNDON BAINES JOHNSON: 36th president of the U.S.

MIRABEAU B. LAMAR: In 1839, became president of the Republic of Texas, and selected the rolling hills surrounding the small town of Waterloo, as the new Republic's Capital. Later this area was renamed Austin after Stephen Austin the "Father of Texas".

SELENA PEREZ: Born in 1971, talented Grammy award-winning singer from Lake Jackson, Texas.

SCOTT JOPLIN: Born in 1868, was a self taught American pianist and composer from Texarkana, Texas.

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN: After his father Moses Austin died in 1821, Stephen Austin (known as the "Father of Texas") carried out his father's dream to establish the first American colony in Texas while it was a part of the Empire of Mexico.

STEVE MARTIN: Famous comedian, film & television actor.

PLACES of TEXAS

Consider visiting these important places in Texas:

ALAMO: (San Antonio) Remains of the original Spanish Mission, where a famous battle took place during the Texas Revolution, between 200 Texas Rebels and 2,000 Mexican troops.

CAPITOL BUILDING & EXTENSION: (Austin) Originally built and completed in 1888. The Extension is made up of underground tunnels which connect the Capitol Building with four other state buildings.

CONGRESS AVE. BRIDGE: (Austin) Nightly bat watching.

GOVERNOR'S MANSION: (Austin) Originally built in 1856.

LYNDON BAINES JOHNSON LIBRARY & MUSEUM: (Austin) This museum showcases historical and cultural exhibits related to the Johnson Presidency.

NASA CENTER: (Houston) Site of space research and many famous space launches including, Apollo 11 which landed the first astronauts on the moon.

SIXTH STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT: (Austin) Includes 19th century historic buildings.

TEXAS STATE LIBRARY: (Austin) Built in 1839 and is the oldest library in Texas.

TEXAS STATE CEMETERY: (Austin) This is the resting place of Texas' most notable citizens including Stephen F. Austin, Barbara Jordan, and John Connally.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS: (Austin) One of the finest educational institutions in the country.