

Instructional Recipe

If There Were No Houses in Texas, Where Would You Live?

4th Grade, Social Studies

Step 1 – Ask

Objectives:

Students will explain the geographic factors that influence patterns of settlement and the distribution of population in Texas, past and present.

Introduction: To capture students' attention, you might show them a few pictures of Texas landscapes, such as the one below.



Castillo, José L.. [Land with trees]. The Portal to Texas History.
<http://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph22065/>. Accessed July 28, 2009.

Ask:

- ★ If you were coming to Texas with an empresario such as Stephen F. Austin, where do you think you would want to settle? Why?
- ★ If you could choose to live anywhere in Texas today, where would you live? Why?

Vocabulary:

- ★ **ancestor** – a person who you are descended from such as a grandparent
- ★ **border** – line that separates one country or state from another
- ★ **diversity** - variety
- ★ **empresario** – land agent or land contractor
- ★ **immigrant** – person who migrates to another country
- ★ **migrant** – person who moves from place to place, usually in search of work

TEKS:

(4.8D) explain the geographic factors that influence patterns of settlement and the distribution of population in Texas, past and present.

Technology Application TEKS:

4A Apply appropriate electronic search strategies in the acquisition of information including keyword and Boolean search strategies.

6A Apply critical analysis to resolve information conflicts and validate information

6B Determine the success of strategies used to acquire electronic information

6C Determine usefulness and appropriateness of digital information

7A Use software programs with audio, video, and graphics to enhance learning experiences

7B Use appropriate software to express ideas and solve problems including the use of word processing, graphics, databases, spreadsheets, simulations, and multimedia

7C Use a variety of data types including text, graphics, digital audio, and video

10A Use font attributes, color, white space, and graphics to ensure that products are appropriate for the defined audience

10B Use font attributes, color, white space, and graphics to ensure that products are appropriate for the communication media including multimedia screen displays, Internet documents, and printed material

11A Publish information in a variety of media including, but not limited to, printed copy, monitor display, Internet documents and video

11B Use presentation software to communicate with specific audiences

Step 2 – Investigate

Search the Texas Heritage Online Resources and the K-12 Databases for articles on immigration in Texas or Stephen F. Austin.

Texas Heritage Online Resources:

- ★ Texas. Bureau of Immigration.. *Texas, the home for the emigrant, from everywhere / published by authority of the Legislature and under the auspices of the Superintendent of Immigration of the state of Texas..* Houston. The Portal to Texas History. <http://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph28586/>. Accessed July 28, 2009.
- ★ Woodman, David Jr.. *Guide to Texas emigrants.* Boston. The Portal to Texas History. <http://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph27723/>. Accessed July 28, 2009.
- ★ *Map of the State of Texas.* The Portal to Texas History. <http://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph32299/>. Accessed July 28, 2009.
- ★ Menefee, Selden C.. *Mexican Migratory Workers of South Texas.* Washington, DC. The Portal to Texas History. <http://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph5839/>. Accessed July 28, 2009.
- ★ Texas Historical Foundation. *Heritage, Volume 01, 2008.* Austin, Texas. The Portal to Texas History. <http://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph45359/>. Accessed July 28, 2009.

EBSCO Resources:

- ★ Austin, Stephen Fuller. Columbia Electronic Encyclopedia, 6th Edition, 1/1/2009, p1-1, 1p; Reading Level (Lexile): 1140; **(AN 39044953)**
<<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=prh&AN=39044953&site=srck5-live>>
- ★ Five Best States to Start a Business. By: Bandyk, Matthew. U.S. News & World Report, 7/1/2009, Vol. 146 Issue 6, p77-77, 1p; Reading Level (Lexile): 1120; **(AN 41785143)**
<<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=mih&AN=41785143&site=srck5-live>>
- ★ Immigration. World Almanac & Book of Facts, 2008, p11-11, 1/6p; Reading Level (Lexile): 1190; **(AN 28820672)**
<<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=prh&AN=28820672&site=srck5-live>>
- ★ U.S.-Mexico Border Region. By: Hively, Todd. Let's Take a Look at Geographic Treasures, 2008, p1-1, 1p; Reading Level (Lexile): 930; **(AN 14304110)**
<<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=mih&AN=14304110&site=srck5-live>>

Additional Websites:

- ★ <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/GG/hrg75.html>
- ★ <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/CC/icc4.html>
- ★ <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/NN/ptn1.html>
- ★ http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/MM/npm1_print.html

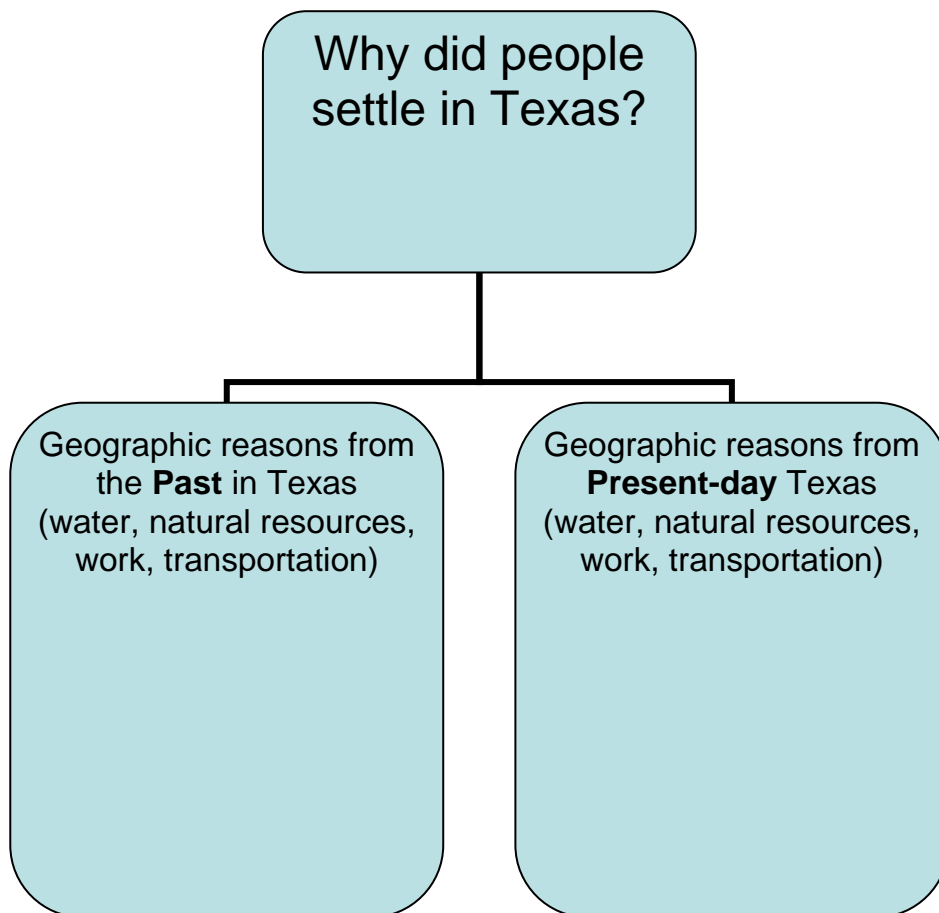


Step 3 – Create

Students can work individually or with partners to create a concept map that organizes the information they learned about Texas. Here are some suggested topics:

Allow students to share and discuss their concept maps as an entire class.

🔗 Technology Link – Use a graphic organizer software program, such as Inspiration or <http://bubbl.us>, to create the graphic organizer.



Step 4 – Discuss

Students may choose to complete one of the following projects.

- ★ **Write a diary that describes why your ancestors came to Texas with an empresario in the 1800s.** Be sure to include the geographic factors that influenced why they decided to settle where they did. Looking back at your ancestor’s decision to settle down, do you agree or disagree with their choices? Why or why not?
- ★ Your parents come home one day and say, “We are moving out of this city and you have 5 minutes to decide where we are going to live.” **Create a poster to illustrate and describe where you want to live and the reasons why you’ve chosen to live there.** Be sure to take into account what your parents do for work.
- ★ **Create a PowerPoint presentation to illustrate the “Top 5 Cities to Live in Texas.”** Be sure to include illustrations of the reasons why you chose those 5 cities. Explain what attracted you to those cities and how geography factored into your decision.

🔗 Technology Link – Use a word processing program or desktop publishing program to create your diary and poster explanations. Use Microsoft PowerPoint to create the presentation of Top 5 Cities. Use the EBSCO image collection to locate graphics about Texas.



Step 5 – Reflect

Allow students to present their projects to the rest of the class. Use the following suggested rubric to assess the students’ work. Make sure that the students are familiar with the rubric *before* they begin creating their project. They should refer to the rubric repeatedly to monitor their progress in creating their project.

🔗 Technology Link: You can also create your own rubric with your students at <http://rubistar.4teachers.org/index.php>.

Diary: Settlement in Texas

Teacher Name: _____

Student Name: _____

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Content Accuracy	The letter contains at least 5 accurate facts about the topic.	The letter contains 3-4 accurate facts about the topic.	The letter contains 1-2 accurate facts about the topic.	The letter contains no accurate facts about the topic.
Knowledge Gained	Student can accurately answer all questions related to facts in the poster and processes used to create the poster.	Student can accurately answer most questions related to facts in the poster and processes used to create the poster.	Student can accurately answer about 75% of questions related to facts in the poster and processes used to create the poster.	Student appears to have insufficient knowledge about the facts or processes used in the poster.
Ideas	Ideas were expressed in a clear and organized fashion. It was easy to figure out what the letter was about.	Ideas were expressed in a pretty clear manner, but the organization could have been better.	Ideas were somewhat organized, but were not very clear. It took more than one reading to figure out what the letter was about.	The letter seemed to be a collection of unrelated sentences. It was very difficult to figure out what the letter was about.
Length	The diary includes 7 or more entries	The diary includes 5-6 or more entries.	The diary includes 3-4 entries.	The diary includes 2 entries.

Making A Poster: Settlement in Texas

Teacher Name: _____

Student Name: _____

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Content - Accuracy	At least 7 accurate facts are displayed on the poster.	5-6 accurate facts are displayed on the poster.	3-4 accurate facts are displayed on the poster.	Less than 3 accurate facts are displayed on the poster.
Knowledge Gained	Student can accurately answer all questions related to facts in the poster and processes used to create the poster.	Student can accurately answer most questions related to facts in the poster and processes used to create the poster.	Student can accurately answer about 75% of questions related to facts in the poster and processes used to create the poster.	Student appears to have insufficient knowledge about the facts or processes used in the poster.
Required Elements	The poster includes all required elements as well as additional information.	All required elements are included on the poster.	All but 1 of the required elements is included on the poster.	Several required elements were missing.
Graphics - Originality	Several of the graphics used on the poster reflect an exceptional degree of student creativity in their creation and/or display.	One or two of the graphics used on the poster reflect student creativity in their creation and/or display.	The graphics are made by the student, but are based on the designs or ideas of others.	No graphics made by the student are included.

PowerPoint: Settlement in Texas

Teacher Name: _____

Student Name: _____

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Content - Accuracy	All content throughout the presentation is accurate. There are no factual errors.	Most of the content is accurate but there is one piece of information that might be inaccurate.	The content is generally accurate, but one piece of information is clearly flawed or inaccurate.	Content is typically confusing or contains more than one factual error.
Sequencing of Information	Information is organized in a clear, logical way. It is easy to anticipate the type of material that might be on the next card.	Most information is organized in a clear, logical way. One card or item of information seems out of place.	Some information is logically sequenced. An occasional card or item of information seems out of place.	There is no clear plan for the organization of information.
Use of Graphics	All graphics are attractive (size and colors) and support the theme/content of the presentation.	A few graphics are not attractive but all support the theme/content of the presentation.	All graphics are attractive but a few do not seem to support the theme/content of the presentation.	Several graphics are unattractive AND detract from the content of the presentation.
Originality	Presentation shows considerable originality and inventiveness. The content and ideas are presented in a unique and interesting way.	Presentation shows some originality and inventiveness. The content and ideas are presented in an interesting way.	Presentation shows an attempt at originality and inventiveness on 1-2 cards.	Presentation is a rehash of other people's ideas and/or graphics and shows very little attempt at original thought.