



RESOURCES

- computers with Internet access
- poster board (one each per group of four students)
- pencils (graphite and colored)
- Commemorative Map Role Assignments* handout
- Commemorative Map Rubric* handout
- Commemorative Map Topics* handout
- Guiding Questions* handout (one per student)

2 *Texas Commemorative Maps* HONORING OUR PAST

The rich history of Texas provides us with many opportunities to commemorate our past. Texans honor and celebrate their legacy in many ways—with parades, festivals, rodeos and cultural events, to name a few. Some are celebrations, others are solemn occasions of remembrance, and others simply recognize specific topics or historical events.

One interesting and creative way to honor our past is through the creation of commemorative maps. A commemorative map usually focuses on a single topic or theme. The topic can be historical (e.g., *The Texas Revolution*) or thematic (e.g., *Railroads of Texas*). The Texas General Land Office has several commemorative maps in its collection. These maps are visual reminders of our rich heritage and its impact on our lives.

The *Great Military Map of Texas* is a perfect example of a commemorative map and will be the subject of this activity.

GOALS

1. Identify and describe the characteristics of a commemorative map.
2. Summarize the purpose of a commemorative map.
3. Plan and create a commemorative map from a topic or theme in Texas history.

TEKS

SS, GEOGRAPHY 7.8

The student uses geographic tools to collect, analyze, and interpret data. The student is expected to:

- A. Create thematic maps, graphs, charts, models, and databases representing various aspects of Texas during the 19th and 20th centuries.
- B. Pose and answer questions about geographic distributions and patterns in Texas during the 19th and 20th centuries.

ANTICIPATORY SET

Have you ever participated in a Fourth of July parade or perhaps attended a Veterans Day event? Chances are you did so because you believed it was important to celebrate our country's birthday and to honor those who served our nation. In this activity, students will analyze the *Great Military Map of Texas* and create a commemorative map in groups.



Fall of the Alamo



GREAT MILITARY MAP of TEXAS

Significant Conflicts and Events
BETWEEN
1685 1916

GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Texas Commemorative Maps: Honoring Our Past

PRE-ACTIVITY ASSIGNMENT

1. Direct students to www.glo.texas.gov/cf/ArcMaps/ArcMapsDetail.cfm?intCounter=83432. The Great Military Map of Texas will appear.
2. This page has zoom capability. Students will need to navigate the map using the zoom features. This feature allows students to study the map in great detail.
3. Give each student a copy of the Great Military Map of Texas Guiding Questions handout to complete.
4. When students are finished, review and discuss answers.

THINGS TO CONSIDER

- ★ Set a time limit for project completion.
- ★ If the online zoom feature used to analyze the Great Military Map of Texas is not suitable for use in your classroom, you may want to purchase a class set of maps from the Texas General Land Office. Ask your department chairperson if the maps can be ordered through your school district's budget process.

GROUP ACTIVITY

1. Tell students that they are going to create a commemorative map about a specific topic or theme. Allow them to choose their topic from the list of examples provided or assign specific topics according to current curriculum requirements.
2. Divide students into groups of four. Give each group a set of the following documents:
 - ★ Steps to Success Project Sign-Off Sheet
 - ★ Topic Examples list (if students are choosing their own topic)
 - ★ Rubric
3. Direct students to look over the *Steps to Success Project Sign-Off Sheet*. Tell them each group will be completing the steps, but they must get you to initial as they complete each step before proceeding to the next one. Once a commemorative topic has been assigned, provide students with related resources. Visit www.teacheroz.com/Texas_History.htm for a list of online resources relating to the study of Texas history (the link is case sensitive). This is an extensive list—teachers may wish to pre-select specific resources in advance of the lesson.

Did your students enjoy this lesson? Let us know! The Texas General Land Office values your thoughts and feedback. Please report oversights, errors and omissions to the Texas General Land Office Archives at archives@glo.texas.gov.

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SAVETEXASHISTORY.ORG | 800.998.4GLO

STEPS TO SUCCESS PROJECT SIGN-OFF SHEET

STEP 1: ROLE ASSIGNMENTS

Choose a specific role for each group member. Write individual names next to their chosen roles.

1. _____

LEADER

LEADER'S DUTIES

- ★ Directs the overall project and makes sure it is completed on time.
- ★ Assists the researcher in collecting facts and other information.

2. _____

ARTIST

ARTIST'S DUTIES

- ★ Creates the artwork that complements the theme of the map.
- ★ Assists the geographer in locating and drawing geographical features.

3. _____

RESEARCHER

RESEARCHER'S DUTIES

- ★ Collects the necessary facts that relate to the map topic.

4. _____

GEOGRAPHER

GEOGRAPHER'S DUTIES

- ★ Places geographical and political information on the map.

STEP 2: RESEARCH & PLANNING

- Group:** Gather information about the topic.
- Researcher:** Guide group members in determining what information will be included on the map.
- Group:** Create a map title that summarizes the topic's main idea.
- Artist:** Write the title on the map.

TEACHER INITIALS: _____

STEP 3: IDENTIFICATION OF MAP FEATURES

- Group:** Make a list of important cities, towns, major rivers, landforms and other features that will enhance the understanding of the commemorative topic.
- Geographer:** Identify the correct locations of these places and write the information on the map clearly and legibly.

TEACHER INITIALS: _____

TEXAS COMMEMORATIVE MAPS PROJECT

STEP 4: PRODUCTION

- **Artist and Geographer:** Determine the layout of the information on the map to make sure it is organized and readable.
- **Artist:** Draw the required number of images on the map that complement the map topic and create visual interest.
- **Geographer:** Create a map key using the information.

TEACHER INITIALS: _____

STEP 5: REVIEW

- **Group:** Review the commemorative map for accuracy and completeness using the rubric provided.

TEACHER INITIALS: _____

STEP 6: SUMMARY QUESTIONS

- **Leader:** Once the map is completed, record the group's responses to the following questions:

1. What is our map commemorating?

2. How does the completed map help viewers/readers understand the commemorative topic?

3. How is the commemorative map topic connected to what we are learning in class?

TEACHER INITIALS: _____

TEXAS COMMEMORATIVE MAPS PROJECT

THE GREAT MILITARY MAP OF TEXAS GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. This commemorative map was created to honor a particular group of people. What group is this?

2. How does the use of color enhance the map's visual appeal?

3. How are facts on the map arranged? How does this arrangement help the reader understand the military history of Texas?

4. How are symbols used to help the reader identify information? Give one example.

5. How does the artwork complement the facts on the map?

6. The Great Military Map of Texas was hand-drawn by an artist and draftsman, using 19th century technology. Creating the map with today's digital technology would have been much faster and easier. Why do you think the older method was used?

TEXAS COMMEMORATIVE MAPS PROJECT

7. Commemorative maps can be great tools for learning about a specific topic. What advantages does this map have over conventional textbook information?

What disadvantages does this map have over conventional textbook information?

8. The facts represented on this map were researched and compiled by many people. Given this information, is this map a **primary** or **secondary** source? Explain your answer.

9. List two facts you've learned that you didn't know prior to studying this map.

10. Imagine you were the researcher for this commemorative map. What facts or incidents relating to Texas military history would you like to add?

The Great Military Map of Texas is an excellent example of a commemorative map and how facts related to a theme can enhance learning.

You will now use what you have learned to create your own commemorative map!

TEXAS COMMEMORATIVE MAPS PROJECT

TOPIC EXAMPLES

You can be as creative with content and skills as time will allow.

EXAMPLE: A *Texas Cattle Trails Commemorative Map* might include original cowboy poetry, examples of equipment used by cowboys, locations of major ranches and towns, cattle trails, prominent geographical features and influential people from this period.

TEXAS FESTIVALS AND CELEBRATIONS

EUROPEAN EXPLORATION

INDIAN WARS IN TEXAS

CATTLE TRAILS AND RANCHES

SPANISH INFLUENCE IN TEXAS

EUROPEAN COLONIZATION OF TEXAS

TEXAS REVOLUTION (MANY THEMES)

REPUBLIC OF TEXAS (MANY THEMES)

CIVIL WAR

“KING COTTON”

TEXAS AND TECHNOLOGY (RAILROADS, CHANGES IN FARMING AND RANCHING, ETC.)

PROGRESSIVE TEXAS

TEXAS AND THE NEW DEAL (PUBLIC WORKS, ETC.)

TEXAS AT WAR (WWI AND WWII)

HIGH TECH TEXAS

ISSUES IN CONTEMPORARY TEXAS

CONSIDER THESE CONNECTIONS

SCIENCE — *Wildlife, Pollution, “Green” Technology*

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS TOPICS — *Authors of Texas, Myths and Legends of Texas*

MATH — *Surveying in Texas, Statistics of Texas*

TEXAS COMMEMORATIVE MAPS PROJECT

RUBRIC

CATEGORIES	(4) MASTER CARTOGRAPHER	(3) JOURNEYMAN	(2) APPRENTICE	(1) NOVICE
COMMEMORATIVE TITLE	Title summarizes the purpose/content of the map, is clearly distinguishable as the title (e.g., larger letters, underlined, etc.) and is printed at the top of the map.	Title adequately summarizes the purpose/content of the map and is printed at the top of the map.	Title, more or less, summarizes the purpose/content of the map, but is not located at the top of the map.	Purpose/content of the map is not clear from the title.
NEATNESS AND COLOR OF LINES	All straight lines are ruler-drawn, all errors have been neatly corrected and all features are colored completely.	All straight lines are ruler-drawn, most errors have been neatly corrected and most features are colored completely.	Most straight lines are ruler-drawn, most errors have been neatly corrected and most features are colored completely.	Many lines, corrections of errors and/or features are not neatly done.
LABELS AND FEATURES	90-100% of the labels/features can be read easily and are located correctly on the map.	80-89% of the labels/features can be read easily and are correctly located on the map.	70-79% of the labels/features can be read easily and are located correctly on the map.	Less than 70% of the labels/features can be read easily and are located correctly on the map.
SPELLING AND CAPITALIZATION	95-100% of the words on the map are spelled/capitalized correctly.	85-94% of the words on the map are spelled/capitalized correctly.	75-84% of the words on the map are spelled/capitalized correctly.	Less than 75% of the words on the map are spelled/capitalized correctly.
LEGEND/KEY	Legend is easy to find and contains a complete set of symbols.	Legend contains a complete set of symbols.	Legend contains an almost complete set of symbols.	Legend is absent or lacks several symbols.
COMMEMORATIVE FACTS	90-100% of facts are accurate and appropriate to the map theme.	80-89% of facts are accurate and appropriate to the map theme.	70-79% of facts are accurate and appropriate to the map theme.	Less than 70% of facts are accurate and appropriate to the map theme.