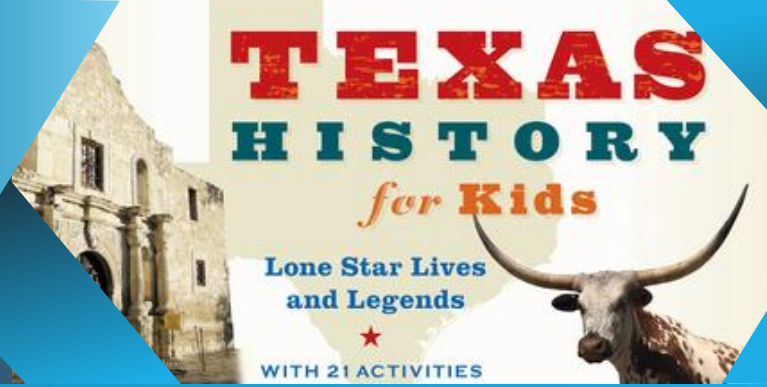


TEXAS HISTORY FOR KIDS DISCUSSION GUIDE



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About This Book

Like everything in the Lone Star State, the history of Texas is larger than life. *Texas History for Kids: Lone Star Lives and Legends* shares the rich history of Texas from the Cretaceous Period to the Technology Age. This book shows readers what makes Texas unique, and along the way, readers can try any of the featured 21 hands-on activities that are fun to do on your own or as part of a group.

Pre-Reading Activity

What do you know about Texas? Its large size? Do you think of Texas as the land of cowboys, beaches, or Tex-Mex food? What have you heard people say about Texas? Are the things you've heard based on truth? Think about what you know or think you know as you read *Texas History for Kids*.

Discussion Questions

- Who is Midland Minnie and why do scientists find her so fascinating?
- Cairns have been discovered in West Texas and mounds in East Texas. What do we know about these people? How might the geography of Texas have influenced prehistoric settlement?
- Who were the earliest known Native Americans known to live in Texas? Are their descendants still around?
- Why were Spanish explorers and missionaries drawn to Texas?
- Six different country flags have flown over Texas, showing who ruled Texas at different times. What are the flags? What country ruled Texas for the longest?
- People known as Tejanos have lived in Texas a very long time. What is a Tejano? Is it any different than being a Texan?
- The Battle of the Alamo was won by Mexico. How did this battle lead to the forming of the Republic of Texas? Why was it important to "Remember the Alamo"?
- In 2018, there was some discussion about renaming the capital city of Austin because its founder Stephen Austin was a slave holder. What do you think about this?
- Before you read this book, would you have believed Texas had camels (Chapter 4)? Why or why not?
- What part did Texas play in the Civil War? Where did the Juneteenth holiday originate and what is its significance?
- Locate some important women in the book. Who did you find most interesting and why?
- The Texas Rangers were an important law enforcement agency that still exists today. Why is this group unique to Texas?
- Why do people often associate cowboys with the state of Texas?
- What role has the Texas coastline played in business, industry, weather, and recreation?
- How has oil affected the development and economy of Texas?
- Why did the state become an important part of the space industry?
- Who was the most interesting person Texan that you learned about in this book? Will you try to learn more about him or her?