

# LESSON 22

## TEXAS ALMANAC TEACHERS GUIDE

### Counties of Texas

- *254 Counties in Texas*
- *History, Maps, Statistics*

#### SOCIAL STUDIES TEKS

4 - 6, 7, 8, 12, 21, 22, 23

7 - 8, 9, 12, 21, 22, 23

8 - 10, 12, 29, 30

#### STAAR

4, 7 - Writing - 1, 2, 3

4, 7, 8 - Reading - 1, 2, 3

8 - Social Studies - 2, 4

#### INSTRUCTIONAL SUGGESTIONS

**1. "MY COUNTY" PROJECT:** Students will use "Counties of Texas" section, the foldout map, and the Physical Regions of Texas map to complete these activities.

- On an 8.5 x 11 sheet of plain paper, draw an **outline of the county** in which you live.
- Locate and label the **county seat**.
- Draw and label the important **physical features**.
- Draw and label the **major highways**.
- Draw and label any significant **historical landmarks**.
- Draw and label any **noteworthy sites**; for example, airports, military bases, and parks.
- In which **physical region** is your county?

**2. MULTI-COUNTY COMPARISON:** Select one county from each of the **other three physical regions** of Texas. Compare them to the county in which you live by **creating maps** for each of these counties as you did for yours in No. 1.

**3. MULTI-COUNTY RANKINGS:**

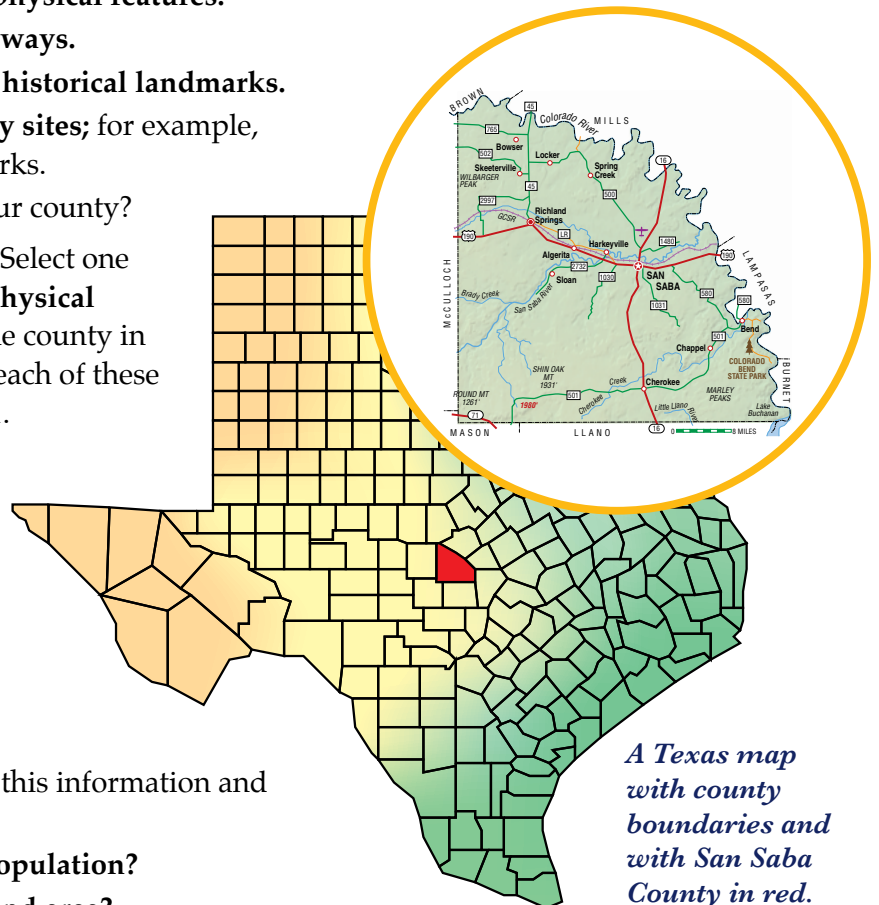
Rank these four counties from Nos. 1 and 2 according to:

- **population**
- **land area**
- **rainfall**
- **average weekly wage**
- **retail sales**

Students will **create a chart** reflecting this information and then answer these questions:

- Which county has the greatest **population**?
- Which county has the greatest **land area**?
- Which county has the least **rainfall**?
- Which county, 1 or 2, has the greater **weekly wage**?
- Which county, 3 or 4, has less **retail sales**?

**4. COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS:** Using the four counties, students will construct a **pie or bar graph** reflecting the race/ethnicity for each county.



*A Texas map with county boundaries and with San Saba County in red. The inset shows San Saba County, which is in the Great Plains physical region.*

## LESSON 22 – Counties of Texas

5. **COLLAGE:** Using information from individual counties and an enlarged copy of the “Texas Counties Map” (Appendix), the class will create a collage on Texas counties that includes:

- **physical features**
- **economic activities**
- **recreation**
- **agricultural products**

6. **COUNTIES MAP & COMPARISON:** On a “Texas Counties Map (Appendix), students will color the **30 counties** with the **largest populations**. Use the map and chart titled “Metropolitan Statistical Areas” as a guide and the population figures contained in each county article.

Select a county from each of the **four physical regions** of Texas and use information from individual county articles as a reference to answer these questions and complete this activity:

- What **natural resources** might have attracted people to those counties?
- What forms of **transportation** are available to those living in these areas?
- Write a paragraph describing three factors that have **contributed to the growth** of one of these counties.

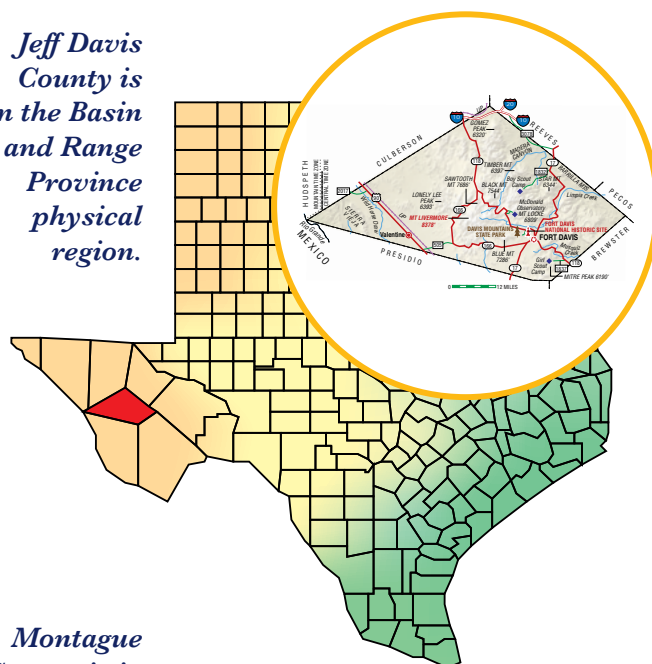
7. **PERSUASIVE ESSAY:** Students should select one county and from No. 6 and write a **persuasive essay** that would encourage readers to move to that county.

8. **CLEVER CITIES-TEASING TOWNS ACTIVITY:**

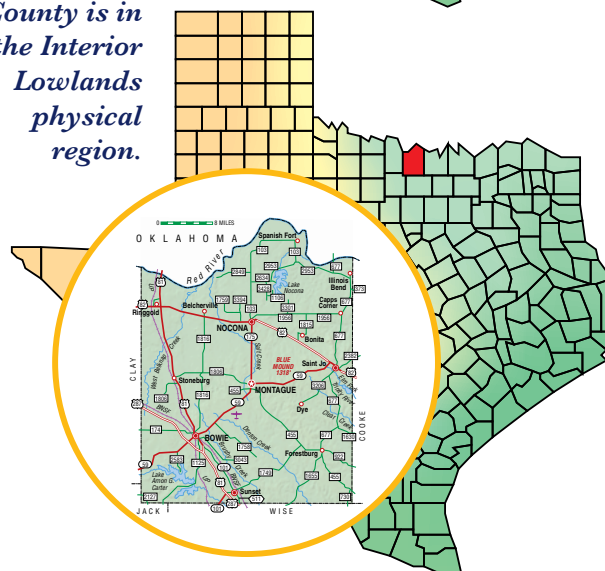
- Using individual county articles and maps, and working in pairs, students will complete the **Clever Cities and Teasing Towns Student Activity Sheet** to determine the city or town that matches the clues.
- Using the individual county articles students will **create their own clues** to identify other cities and towns in Texas.

9. **WORD SEARCH:** Students will complete the **Texas Counties Word Search** using information from the “Counties of Texas” section or the specific county name. Students should fill in the blanks first and then use these clues to complete the **Word Search Activity Sheet**.

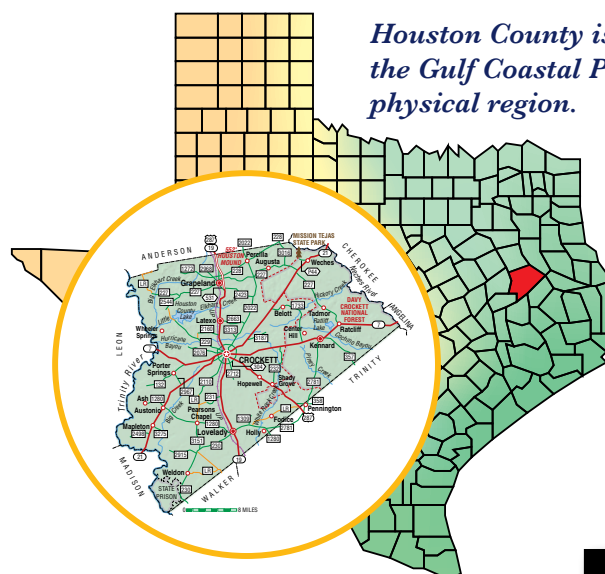
*Jeff Davis County is in the Basin and Range Province physical region.*



*Montague County is in the Interior Lowlands physical region.*



*Houston County is in the Gulf Coastal Plains physical region.*



## Lesson 22 – Counties of Texas

### STUDENT ACTIVITY

# Clever Cities and Teasing Towns

COUNTY	CLUE	CITY
1. Angelina	Play in baseball	_____
2. Bailey	Animal footwear	_____
3. Bell	Brand of cupcake	_____
4. Bosque	Final funeral message	_____
5. Brewster	26.2-mile race	_____
6. Caldwell	Salt water tree	_____
7. Callahan	Brand of bread	_____
8. Cherokee	Voice in a choir	_____
9. Coleman	Spider town	_____
10. Concho	Biblical garden	_____
11. Coryell	Breakfast food	_____
12. Culberson	Spanish word for wolf	_____
13. Denton	Think about	_____
14. Dimmit	Season safe spot	_____
15. El Paso	Actor Eastwood	_____
16. Fisher	Tweety's enemy	_____
17. Franklin	George Washington's home	_____
18. Galveston	Chummy trees	_____
19. Gonzales	Landed at Plymouth Rock	_____
20. Grayson	Lucy's best friend	_____
21. Hamilton	Tinkerbell	_____
22. Hardin	Water making your mouth pucker	_____
23. Hays	Leaking water	_____
24. Hill	Peaceful high ground	_____
25. Hutchinson	Brand of potato chip	_____



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### STUDENT ACTIVITY

# Clever Cities and Teasing Towns

COUNTY	CLUE	CITY
26. Jackson	Spanish Christmas	_____
27. Jones	Man's formal attire	_____
28. Kaufman	Red Muppet	_____
29. Kent	White bear	_____
30. Kleberg	Royal city	_____
31. Lee	Two nickels in a container	_____
32. Madison	A president's town	_____
33. Matagorda	Grace at meal	_____
34. Motley	Bullfighter	_____
35. Nacogdoches	Crazy town	_____
36. Panola	Fourths of a European nation	_____
37. Presidio	Automobile make and color	_____
38. Red River	Hurt appendage	_____
39. Rockwall	Destiny	_____
40. San Jacinto	Hit center of target	_____
41. Stephens	Must have	_____
42. Swisher	Gleeful	_____
43. Travis	Cartoon cat	_____
44. Upshur	Fasten	_____
45. Van Zandt	Type of vehicle	_____
46. Ward	Kings and queens	_____
47. Wilson	Multiple trees	_____
48. Wise	Colored wood	_____
49. Young	Cares very much	_____
50. Zapata	High-flying bird	_____



## Lesson 22 – Counties of Texas

### STUDENT ACTIVITY

# Texas Counties Word Search

1. Fort \_\_\_\_\_, established in 1849, is located in Hill County.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ is the county seat of Ector County.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ National Grassland is located in Dallam County.
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ River forms the southern boundary of Brown County.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ is the county seat of Aransas County.
6. Part of the \_\_\_\_\_ National Forest is located in Nacogdoches County.
7. In Sabine County, the town of \_\_\_\_\_ is located south of Sexton.
8. Terrell County was created in 1905 from \_\_\_\_\_ County.
9. An airport in Williamson County is located north of the city of \_\_\_\_\_.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ National Historic Site is located in Cameron County north of Brownsville.
11. The \_\_\_\_\_ Railroad goes through Culberson County.
12. Fayette County was named for a hero of the \_\_\_\_\_ Revolution, Marquis de Lafayette.
13. Kimble County is named for George C. Kimble, who died at the \_\_\_\_\_.
14. Texas State \_\_\_\_\_ is located in San Marcos in Hays County.
15. \_\_\_\_\_ missions were built in Nacogdoches County in 1716.
16. The capital city, \_\_\_\_\_, is located in Travis County.
17. Navarro County is named for Jose Antonio Navarro, a leader during the \_\_\_\_\_ of Texas.
18. Taylor County is named for Edward, \_\_\_\_\_, and George Taylor, heroes of the Alamo.
19. The county seat of Potter County is \_\_\_\_\_.
20. Old Fort \_\_\_\_\_ is located near Marfa in Presidio County.
21. \_\_\_\_\_ Indians lived in Refugio County.
22. The \_\_\_\_\_ River flows through Roberts County.
23. Austin County is named for Stephen F. Austin, the \_\_\_\_\_ of Texas.
24. Fort \_\_\_\_\_ is located in El Paso County.
25. Oil, \_\_\_\_\_, and caliche productions are important minerals found in Jim Wells County.
26. \_\_\_\_\_ Indians abandoned present-day Red River County in the 1790s.
27. Ellis County is named for Richard Ellis, president of the convention that declared Texas' \_\_\_\_\_.
28. \_\_\_\_\_ Canyon State Park is located in Randall County.
29. The \_\_\_\_\_ River forms the eastern boundary of Orange County.
30. Maverick County is named for Samuel Maverick, whose name is now a synonym for unbranded \_\_\_\_\_.



## Lesson 22 – Counties of Texas

### STUDENT ACTIVITY

# Texas Counties Word Search

S O C E P  
R D K I T  
C E V T Y  
Y S S A G  
T S D R Q  
I A R J Y B L I S S  
S R V I C Y W O R U D O L A P  
R A I E N U I U W K O P O R S L V  
E C T T N E P Y Y L D E R E L T T A C  
V R R J A E E C N E D N E P E D N I R L R  
I Y O C E B G W U W A W V C V I L L S C Y  
N L P R R K L R H X C K B F L S B C Y Y S  
U N K J J V C A G E O R G E T O W N L C V A  
Y S C M H W Z K N Y E M G W J R L S I C N L  
H N A C I R E M A W O D A R O L O C W N A T E W H F E R K A  
S A M A R I L L O R W C E S H W W A R C H V K I A N A L M  
I R K W A M V L E P W P V N Q P I E T L W C C L I Y S O  
N K C R A U S T I N U W A R A W A K N A R A K B H R  
A M C H H B I I U E F W B P V O W L A U  
P O A W L B D P L B Q N W R S R R S  
S R O I D A W Z C O V R W R U S  
G C L N Q R I K R U H T E  
K A K N O J M S U L  
C U O T G E Q L  
G R L M M F  
A A C D  
J O R R  
C L M B  
A K  
P L

