

Texas History – TX People Notebook Project

Include the following in your notebook in the order listed:

1. Title Page: Centered, Double-spaced:

Title

Last name, First name

Ms. Gunther

Course – Period

Date

2. Explorers: Choose a major explorer from Texas history. Learn about this person and the time period when he explored. Write a report and discuss his background, the country that sponsored his explorations, and the results of his journey. Give interesting information and facts. On a separate sheet, draw a map showing his trip. Be sure to include a legend and labels – USE COLORED PENCILS! All labels are to be typed.
3. Women: Women play important roles in Texas history. Many famous and unknown women have made great achievements in science, medicine, law, education, business, literature, family, the arts, and other parts of Texas life. Research a successful woman and write about her various accomplishments. On a separate sheet, design an award to recognize the person you chose. The design is to be hand-drawn and colored.
4. Poets: Many people express the feelings or thoughts of a state or nation through poetry. The voice of poetry has spoken throughout Texas history. Choose a Texas poet to research. Write about this person giving information about their life, their poetry and awards or honors they have received. Read some of your chosen poet's work and copy one on a separate sheet. The poem must be typed – unless typing it destroys the artistic intent of the poet (you will be required to explain this intent to me). You are welcome to also create and write a poem about Texas – please refer to your English teacher for any questions regarding poetry format. Your poem may be illustrated or enhanced with designs. USE COLOR unless a black and white version of your poem is necessary for artistic intent (you will be required to explain this intent to me.)
5. Authors: Texas authors write new books each year. Many of these books are read by people around the world. Research a Texas author and write a short biography about that person. On a separate sheet, make a list of books that he/she has written. Include any awards/honors received.

6. Sports: Texas is known for producing great athletes. Read about one talented Texas athlete, past or present, male or female. Write an essay and include: What sport/sports did this athlete play? What team/teams did this athlete play for? Include any interesting facts that you discover. On a separate sheet make a time-line about this person's sports career. USE COLOR.
7. Politicians: Texas is represented by senators, representatives, mayors, city councils, and a governor. Choose a current politician in Texas that you would vote for if you could. Research this person from news articles, web sites and other sources. Write about the political beliefs and accomplishments of this politician. Include any information you find regarding his religious affiliation, ethics, voting record and other interesting facts. On a separate sheet design a poster to reelect this politician.
8. Heroes: Texas wouldn't be the same without its heroes. Texas heroes come in all sizes, shapes, colors, and genders. They are not always famous or even recognized, but all Texas citizens should appreciate their selfless acts of courage. Who are your Texas heroes? Write a short letter to two state heroes that explain why they are each your hero. Follow this sample outline:

Date:

Dear Hero,

1st paragraph: Introduce yourself and explain why you are writing.

2nd paragraph: Give several reasons why this person is your hero.

3rd paragraph: Thank your hero for being a good role model.

Sincerely,

Your name

9. The Arts and Entertainment: Texas is rich in talent. Research a Texas artist or entertainer. Write about their styles and describe their work. Identify awards/honors that they have received. Tell why you selected this person. On a separate sheet create your own work in the style of the person you chose.

You may use encyclopedias, books, magazines, newspapers and the internet to research your information. You MAY NOT use Wikipedia for information. You may quote information, but it must be properly cited, otherwise it is plagiarism – theft!

Have a title page for categories 2 – 9.

Reports must be typed except where noted and approved by instructor. Double-space all typed papers in a 12 pt font.

Do not write or put anything on the back of any page.

Extras add to the grade: matting, good lettering, color, etc.

Presentation of material is very important.

You will be graded on neatness, creativity, correct information, detailed information and following directions.

Each student will pick 1 of the topics and give a 2 minute speech at the time of presentation.

DUE: