

★ Let US Teach That For You!

The End of the Open Range

Overview: In this activity, students will consider the impact of innovations such as the windmill, railroad travel, and barbed wire on the cattle industry in Texas.

Objectives

Students will:

1. Compare and contrast the impact of the windmill, railroad, and barbed wire on the cattle industry in Texas.
2. Research a major Texas ranch.
3. Create a visual presentation using information from research.

Materials

Educational Materials Provided by Frontier Texas!:

Rotator (63) "End of an Era"

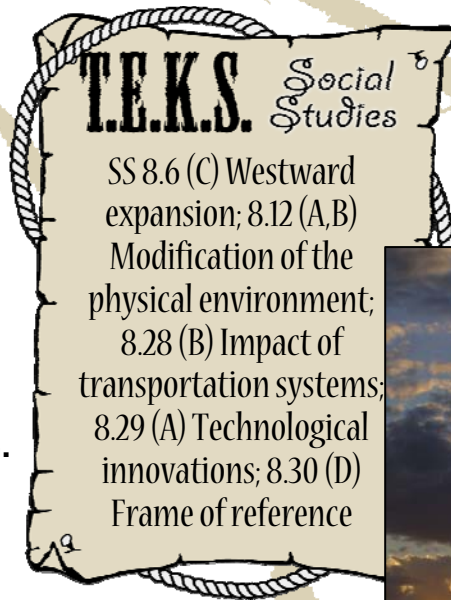
Materials Needed:

Copies of "The Farmer and the Cowman" (Attachment 1), "Changes Are Coming" (Attachment 2), websites for research <http://www.ranches.org/JAranch.htm>, <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/MM/apm2.html>, <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/XX/apx1.html>, <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/KK/apk1.html>, <http://www.king-ranch.com/>

Teaching Strategy

Pre-Visit Introduction

1. Distribute the lyrics to the song, "The Farmer and the Cowboys Should be Friends."
2. Ask students to identify the causes of disagreement between the "hay shakers" and the "cow punchers."



Museum Instruction

1. Beyond the stage coach at Frontier Texas!, students will read Rotator (63) entitled "End of an Era" about Joseph Glidden and the discovery of barbed wire.
2. Students will observe the display of different kinds of barbed wire.
3. Students should read about Daniel Halladay and his invention, the windmill.
4. Students will read about the T&P railroad and its influence on this part of Texas.
5. Students should consider the effect of all three of these innovations and analyze their impact on this region by completing the prepared sheet, "Changes are Coming." (Attachment 2)

Post-Visit Synthesis Activity

1. Divide the class up into four groups and assign research on these ranches:
 - a. The XIT Ranch
 - b. The King Ranch
 - c. The JA Ranch
 - d. The Matador Ranch
2. Students will discover:
 - e. The history of the ranch
 - i. When it started
 - ii. How it grew
 - iii. The owners
 - f. The size of the ranch
 - g. The cattle on the ranch
 - h. Its use today
3. Students should find pictures if possible to share with the class
4. Each group will design a new brand for the ranch.
5. Allow students to teach the rest of the class what they learned by creating a ranch newsletter which includes the information found.

Student Assessment

Assess the depth of research and the information presented in the ranch newsletter by noting the number of different facts presented.

Enrichment Activity

Students may create a map showing the locations and broad expanse of these great ranches. They should include the acreage and square miles covered.

Created for Frontier Texas! by Jeanne Wray

Song: The Farmer And The Cowman

The farmer and the cowman should be friends,
Oh, the farmer and the cowman should be friends.
One man likes to push a plough, the other likes to chase a cow,
But that's no reason why they cain't be friends.

Territory folks should stick together,
Territory folks should all be pals.
Cowboys dance with farmer's daughters,
Farmers dance with the ranchers' gals.

I'd like to say a word for the farmer,
He come out west and made a lot of changes
He come out west and built a lot of fences,
And built 'em right acrost our cattle ranges.

The farmer and the cowman should be friends,
Oh, the farmer and the cowman should be friends.
The cowman ropes a cow with ease, the farmer steals her butter and cheese,
But that's no reason why they cain't be friends

Territory folks should stick together,
Territory folks should all be pals.
Cowboys dance with farmer's daughters,
Farmers dance with the ranchers' gals.

I'd like to teach you all a little sayin'
And learn the words by heart the way you should
I don't say I'm no better than anybody else,
But I'll be damned if I ain't jist as good!
I don't say I'm no better than anybody else,
But I'll be damned if I ain't jist as good!

Territory folks should stick together,
Territory folks should all be pals.
Cowboys dance with farmer's daughters,
Farmers dance with the ranchers' gals!

Changes Are Coming

Three powerful inventions affected Texas ranchers – barbed wire, windmill, and railroads. List 5 facts about the development of each one, and reach a conclusion about which one had the greatest influence and why.

Barbed wire



Windmills



Railroads



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

In my opinion, the _____ had the greatest impact on Texas because
