

***What Makes Texas, Texas?-State Symbols***  
**from the Bullock Texas State History Museum**  
**Pre-Program Activity**

**Related 3rd Grade Social Studies TEKS:**

3.17 A, B, E  
3.18 A, B, C

**Related 4th Grade TEKS:**

English/Language Arts

4.4 A, B, C

4.5 F

4.13 C, F, G

Social studies

4.16 A, B, C

4.17 A

**Related 5th grade Social Studies TEKS:**

5.17 A, B, C

5.25 A, B, C, D

**Related 6th and 7th Grade Social Studies TEKS:**

22 A, B, C, D

**Objective:**

**Discuss how symbols influence and represent the way we think about and view other people, places, and ideas.**

**During this activity students will:**

- Determine what symbols are
- Discuss symbols used for communication
- Use their research skills to discover various symbols throughout history

**Materials needed:**

One notecard per student, colored pencils, crayons, or markers, a pencil, and access to the internet (or a printed version of the pdf from the website).

**Warm-up:**

- What is a symbol?
- Do you have a symbol for your school? (Sometimes these are mascots.)
- What symbols do people use to communicate about themselves? (clothing, jewelry, tattoos, stickers, bumper stickers, company logos)

**Introduction:**

Using the following website (or a printed version of the pdf), have students read about various Texas symbols. <https://house.texas.gov/kids/worksheets/symbols.pdf>



Discuss what these symbols tell us about Texas.

**Activity:**

Students will create their own symbol. They will draw their symbol on a notecard. Then students will describe their symbol and explain how that particular symbol represents them on the back of the notecard.

**Extension Activities:**

Speech: Deliver persuasive speeches to convince an audience that one particular symbol is the "best" to represent Texas

Literature: Find short stories, poems, or novels that contain symbols of Texas, and write about their meaning in that context.

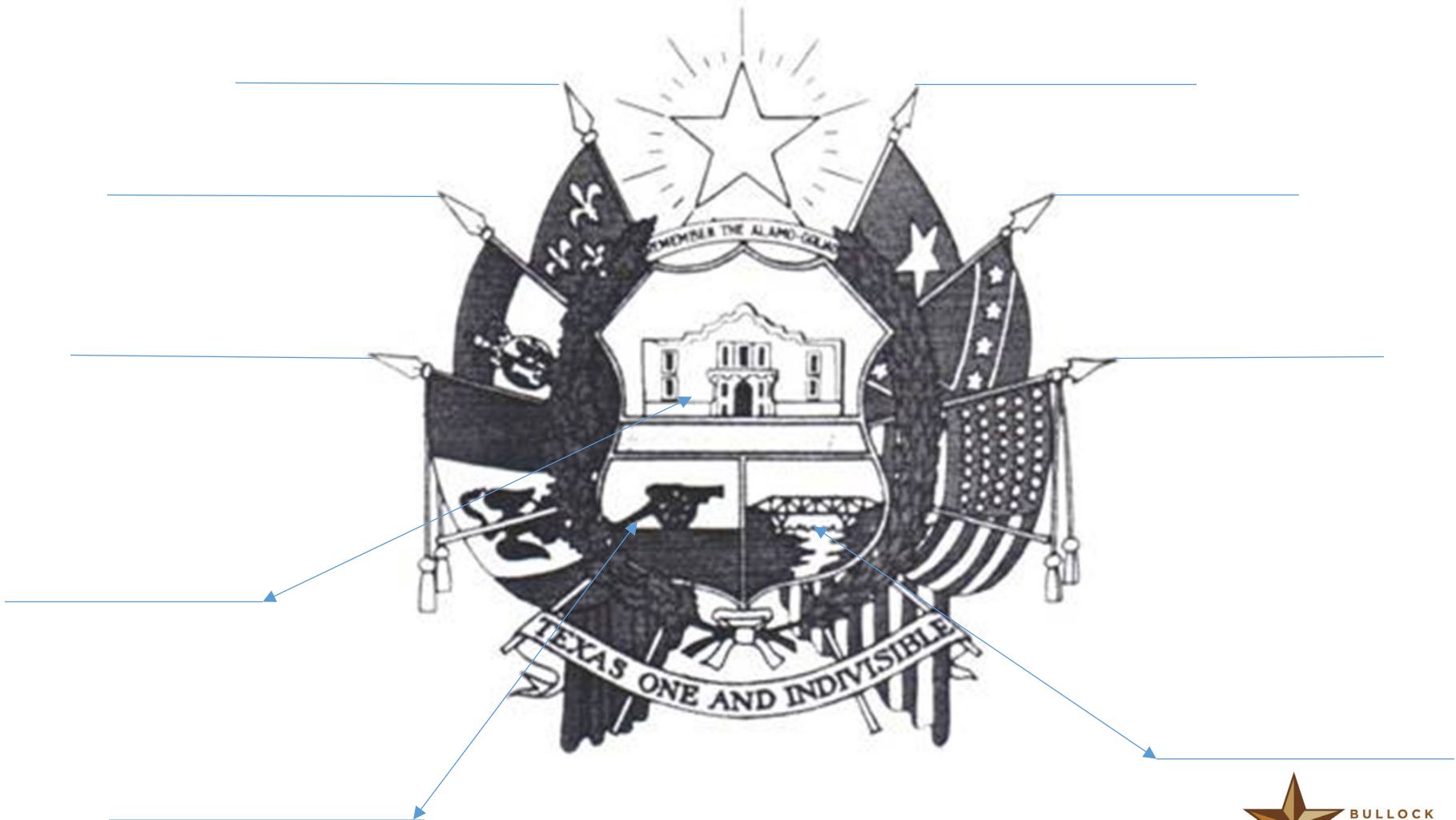
Music: Learn the song "Texas, Our Texas." Look for other cowboy songs or folk tunes that mention Texas symbols. ("Yellow Rose of Texas," "Listen to the Mockingbird") Research the musical instruments, such as flutes and drums, used by Native Americans. Did any of the respondents to the survey mention music? Learn how to sing or play their anthem or song!

Art: Create a mural or collage featuring all the symbols collected.



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Labeling Activity**

**Directions: Write the name of the country represented by each flag. Then, label the three items from the Texas Revolution located in the middle of the Seal.**



**How did each of the items in the middle of the seal represent the Texas Revolution?**

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**What are the 2 quotes on the seal? Explain why each one is important.**

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