

The Lone Star Ledger

A Joint Publication of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission and the Texas Center for the Book

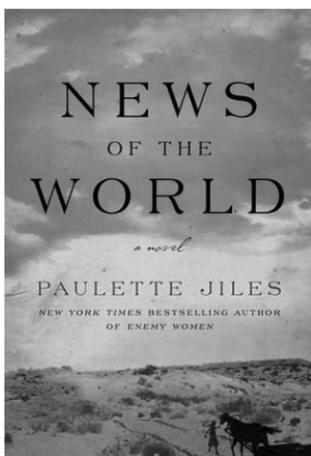
EXTRA! EXTRA!

NEWS OF THE WORLD CHOSEN AS TEXAS' GREAT READ



TEXAS AUTHOR ROPES STATE-WIDE TITLE

The Texas Center for the Book at the Texas State Library and Archives Commission has selected *News of the World* by Texas author Pau-



lette Jiles as the 2017 Texas' Great Read. Each year, states are asked to highlight a book representative of the region's literary landscape at the National Book Festival. The event is sponsored by the Library of Congress and will take place September 2, 2017 in Washington, D.C., to showcase the importance of books and reading.

News of the World is set in Texas in 1870 and offers a thrilling account of Captain Jefferson Kyle Kidd and his travels from town to town giving readings from the latest newspapers. As he brings the news of the world to isolated towns on the Texas frontier, he is asked to return a once-captive girl to her relatives near San Antonio, 400 miles to the south. The old man and the 10-year-

old start out on a dangerous journey, no less risky because the girl considers herself now a Kiowa and does not have the slightest desire to return to her family.

The story that ensues has earned the praise of readers of all ages. A 2016 National Book Award nominee, *News of the World* has been likened to *True Grit*. Known for her poetic and precise language, Jiles brings exquisite rendering and adventure to this story of healing, adaptation, and learning.

"Reading fiction is very important for Texans of all ages," notes Jiles. "It takes you away to the world of the imagination. We need all kinds of different activities for our brains, it's like the four food groups," she adds.

"Reading remains one of the most powerful forces for growth and happiness in our individual lives," said Rebekah Manley, coordinator for the Texas Center for the Book. "That is why promoting



reading and literature to people of all ages is one of the most critical tasks for librarians, parents, and educators," she added. "We are so pleased that Texas will be represented by such a great book at the National Book Festival."

For more information on *News of the World* including additional resources, multi-media video clips and more visit tsl.texas.gov/greatreadtexas. One of 50 state centers affiliated with the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, the Texas Center for the Book is under the direction of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission Building in Austin, Texas.

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TEXAS HISTORY WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

Can you find these Texas-themed words?



AMARILLO
 ARMADILLO
 BLUEBONET
 CATTLE
 CORPUS CHRISTI
 COWBOYS
 FORT WORTH
 GALVESTON
 GULF COAST
 HOUSTON
 JUNETEENTH
 LONE STAR STATE
 LONGHORNS
 LUBBOCK
 OIL WELLS
 PANHANDLE
 RIO GRANDE
 SAN ANTONIO
 THE ALAMO

NEWS OF THE WORLD

1870

Paulette Jiles's book, *News of the World*, follows Captain Jefferson Kyle Kidd as he travels from town to town giving readings from the latest newspapers, bringing the news of the world to isolated towns on the Texas frontier in 1870. Below is a sample of actual news headlines from the time period that help to paint a picture of the world in 1870.

NEW YORK, NY- Construction begins on Brooklyn Bridge. With a span of 1,595.5 feet it is the first steel-wire suspension bridge ever constructed.

PHILADELPHIA, PA- Viewers thrilled to the first ever showing of a "motion picture."

WASHINGTON, DC- An amendment to the U.S. constitution is adopted, guaranteeing the right to vote (for men) regardless of race.

AUSTIN, TX- Texas becomes last confederate state readmitted to Union following the Civil war. The 12th Legislature reconvened a special session and began a program that addressed the rampant violent political and racial issues plaguing the state. The Police Act of 1870 authorized a force of more than 200 men to keep the peace under the jurisdiction of Gov. Edmund J. Davis.

STRAUSBURG, CO- Transcontinental Railway completed. The transcontinental railroad provides fast, safe, and cheap travel. The fare for a one-week trip from Omaha to San Francisco on a sleeping car was about \$65 for an adult.

WASHINGTON, DC- Senator Hiram Revels of Mississippi and Representative Joseph Rainey of South Carolina become the first African Americans elected to the Congress of the United States.

MERIDEN, CT- 60 years after the tin can is invented, William Lions invents the first efficient rotating wheel can opener.

SALT LAKE CITY, UT- The territorial legislature of Utah allows women to vote. Utah thus became the second territory to give the vote to women; Wyoming had passed a women's suffrage act in 1869. No states permitted women to vote at the time.

GRIQUALAND, AFRICA- Diamond deposits discovered in southern Africa, at Kimberley in the land on the northern frontier of the British colony. Diamond diggers from around the world rush there in hopes of striking it rich.

GLASGOW, SCOTLAND- Doctor Joseph Lister believes that microorganisms transmit disease. He reports success in sterilizing tools used in surgery and invents a compound used for safely disinfecting wounds.

BOMBAY, INDIA- The first underwater telegraph cable was laid from the United Kingdom to Bombay, India. Prior to the telegraph it could take more than 33 days for a letter to reach India from the UK.



KOWALSKI'S



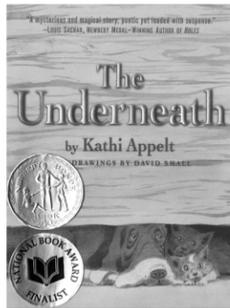
Beard and Moustache Wax
 -MANUFACTURED WITH THE FINEST QUALITY-
 TEXAS BEESWAX AND WOOL GREASE



DID YOU KNOW?
 Texas gets its name from the Hasinai Native American word "tejas" meaning friends or allies.

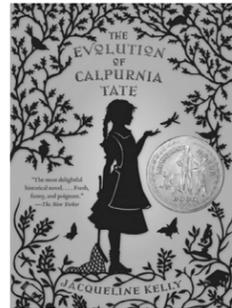
Texas Reading List

TEXAS TITLES FOR YOUNG READERS



The Underneath by Kathi Appelt

A magical tale about a mother cat and an old hound dog teaming up to raise a litter of kittens deep in the backwaters of the Texas bayou.



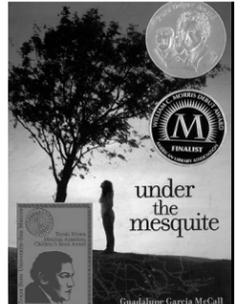
The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate by Jacqueline Kelly

Calpurnia Tate wants to be a scientist. But in rural Texas in 1899, her mother and society might not be quite ready

for her career choice.

Under the Mesquite by Guadalupe Garcia McCall

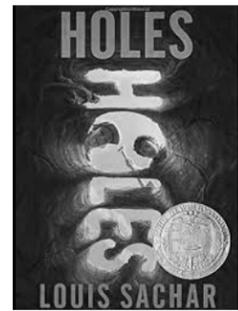
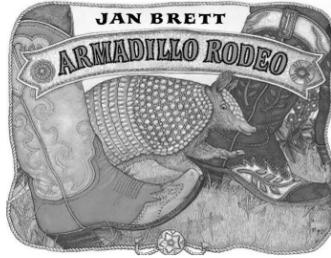
Lupita, a budding actor and poet in a close-knit Mexican American immigrant family, struggles with adult responsibilities during her mother's battle with cancer in this young adult novel in verse.



The Texas Center for the Book's mission is to stimulate public interest in books, reading, literacy and libraries. The Center builds partnerships with library professionals, educators, authors and publishers who share our shared mission of promoting a love of literature throughout the Lone Star State. We've assembled this list of Texas titles, written by Texas Authors or whose theme is centered in Texas.

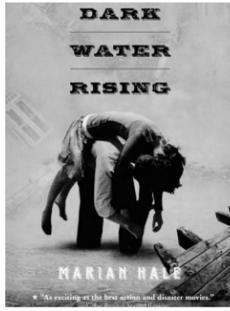
Armadillo Rodeo by Jan Brett

Bo the armadillo has a series of adventures in this picture book for young children set in the Texas hill country.



Holes by Louis Sachar

Innocent Stanley gets sent to Camp Green Lake, a juvenile detention facility in Texas, where the boys are made to dig holes.



Dark Water Rising by Marian Hale

A poignant coming-of-age novel set during the devastating Galveston Storm of 1900 paints a picture of "the deadliest single day in US history."



TEXAS CENTER FOR THE BOOK

tsl.texas.gov/centerforthebook



WRITE YOUR OWN NEWS HEADLINE

HOT OFF THE PRESSES! It's your turn to be the editor of your very own newspaper! Write your own headline, illustrate an image to match your story and don't forget to write your byline in the space provided below.

VOL. 1, No. 1 FREE

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Written By: _____

DID YOU KNOW? The first suspension bridge built in the United States was the Waco Bridge. Built in 1870, this sturdy structure is still in use today for pedestrians crossing the Brazos River.



DISCOVER THE FACES OF OUR



Shared Texas Heritage

TSL.TEXAS.GOV/TEXASDIGITALARCHIVE

About the Texas State Library and Archives Commission



For over a century, the mission of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission has been to ensure that citizens have access to the information they need to lead informed, productive, and fulfilled lives. We live in an information-based economy, and the continued success of the state depends on citizens' access to information that is provided through educational programs designed to serve virtually every Texan regardless of age, geographic location, or physical ability.

A SNAPSHOT OF TEXAS IN 1870

PRIMARY SOURCES FROM THE TEXAS STATE ARCHIVES PROVIDE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE PAST



Richardson's New Map of the State of Texas from 1870 shows rivers, lakes, mountainous and forested areas, counties, cities, towns, roads, railroads, forts, camps, and Indian tribes. From the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

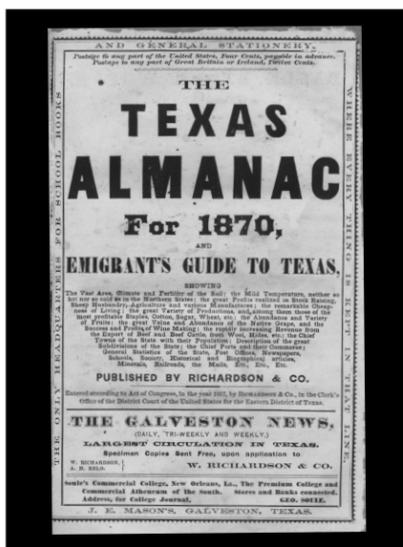
Willard Richardson (1802-1875) settled in Texas, where he worked as a teacher, newspaper editor, and publisher of a series of Texas almanacs. These publications offered a snapshot of life in Texas to perspective visitors and included everything from the average price of a head of cattle to detailed descriptions of the varied regions, populations, and places that made up the Lone Star State.

Information collected in primary resources, like these almanacs, allow researchers, history lovers, and curious readers just like you to better understand our shared Texas past. The following paragraphs are transcripts from the 1870 publication which can be found in the collection of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

TOWNS OF TEXAS

Galveston is admitted to be our largest city, and by far our best sea port. The outer anchorage is perhaps the safest and best on the whole coast of the United States and vessels of the largest size may discharge there any month of the year, with a population of about 25,000. Houston and San Antonio are next in size with about 15,000 each. The population in Austin, the capital of our State, is said to be five or six thousand. We might numerate there are so many new towns springing up all over the state that we cannot pretend to give anything like an accurate enumeration of them. In fact, towns

are springing up so rapidly that many new ones will come into existence in the interval between writing this article and placing it in the hands of numerous readers.



The Texas Almanac for 1870 and Emigrant's Guide to Texas. From the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

LAND OF OPPORTUNITY

Land of the best quality is cheap, from fifty cents to \$1 per acre; livestock prices are low, cattle at \$4 to \$5 per head and horses from \$20 to \$40. The country is open, and the sea breezes, which are more fresh and invigorating here than any other, reach far inland and render the climate one of the most healthful and delightful in the world. The land is easy of cultivation, yielding good crops of corn, cotton, sorghum, and vegetables of all kinds. The people of the Rio

Grande Valley are turning their attention to the cultivation of the soil, there is no better land in the world for the production of cotton and sugar than that fine valley, but its exposure to a border warfare has produced insecurity for life and property for many years.

MILES AND MILES OF TEXAS

In the vast and comprehensive territory of the State of Texas, extending eastward and westward eight hundred miles, and more than six hundred miles from south to north, there is almost every variety of character and description of country, combined with an unsurpassed wealth of soil, and hence possessing an almost unlimited capacity for growing. Prairies and timbered lands diversify the character of the country in many portions of the state.



TEXAS BY THE NUMBERS

TEXAS POPULATION	818,579
HOUSE (32'X40' - 4 ROOMS)	\$700
WAGON	\$75
GALLON OF MILK	\$0.32
DOZEN EGGS	\$0.30
ONE POUND OF COFFEE	\$0.12
PAIR OF BOOTS	\$3.00