

2009 TEXAS READING CLUB

Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!

¡Bibliotecas: En lo más profundo del corazón de Tejas!



2009 Texas Reading Club Programming Manual

Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!

¡Bibliotecas: En lo más profundo del corazón de Tejas!

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Preface

This manual is created for the 2009 Texas Reading Club, a program of the Library Development Division of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. The theme is "Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!" in English and "¡Bibliotecas: En lo más profundo del corazón de Tejas!" in Spanish and invites children to explore Texas symbols, history, geography, legends, plants, animals, and culture.

The 2009 Texas Reading Club manual is available on CD-ROM and online at the Texas State Library web site, <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/2009/manual/>. Children's book illustrator, Joy Fisher Hein, created the artwork for the 2009 Texas Reading Club. Sue Young created an original theme song. Youth librarians from cities large and small throughout Texas wrote the chapters for the 2009 manual. The CD-ROM and the online manual include exquisite artwork by Joy Fisher Hein and a musical recording of the theme song by Sue Young. Please read about Joy Fisher Hein, Sue Young, and the librarians who wrote manual chapters in the "Something about the Artist" and the "Something About the Authors and Songwriters" sections of this manual.

There are many exciting elements in the 2009 Texas Reading Club manual, including:

- A Bilingual Programs Chapter that highlights the *Para los niños* family literacy program developed by the Houston Public Library and the Houston Children's Museum.
- A Celebrations Programs Chapter with ideas for programs to kick-off and end Texas Reading Club festivities.
- Two wonderful puppet plays.
- Chapters with programming ideas for toddlers, preschoolers, and elementary school children.
- A chapter with ideas for science and math programs for children of all ages.

The chapters contain many suggestions for books, songs, rhymes, crafts, activities, and more. As you explore them, you will find many exciting ideas for planning and hosting an enjoyable and successful 2009 Texas Reading Club.

I would like to express my gratitude to the artist, the authors, the songwriters, and say a special thank you to the librarians who bring this program alive by offering it to children throughout Texas each year.

Christine McNew
Youth Services Consultant
Texas State Library and Archives Commission
2009

Something About the Artist: Joy Fisher Hein

Joy Fisher Hein was born in Gainesville, Texas, a world-renowned community circus town. This delightful Texas circus town remains a constant source of inspiration for Joy. Both of her parents were artists, and paints and creative materials were always available to Joy and her two younger siblings. The family moved to Port Arthur when Joy was five and settled in San Antonio when she was eleven.

Inspired by the wonderful art in books that absorbed her, Joy decided as a child that she wanted to illustrate books. Although reading was difficult, her love of the illustrations and her nearsightedness kept her nose in books. It wasn't until she became a parent that Joy discovered she and several family members wrestle with different forms of dyslexia.

A self-taught painter, Joy paints with acrylics on illustration board. The rest of her family--parents, husband and children--prefer oil and watercolor paints.

Joy's award winning paintings were shown and sold in numerous galleries across Texas from the 1970's through the early 1990's. Her dream of illustrating for children came true after she studied with Kathi Appelt, her dear friend, amazing writer and generous mentor, and studied illustration with Diane Stanley, the dynamic illustrator and writer. In 1993, Joy began illustrating textbooks and children's magazines.

Joy loves nature and has gardened all her life. She is a Texas Master Naturalist and is certified by the National Wildlife Federation in School Yard Habitats.

She lives with her husband, Frank Hein, Professor Emeritus of Fine Art, in the beautiful Texas Hill Country. They are the parents of three wonderful, creative grown children and the grandparents of four budding artists and readers.

Miss Lady Bird's Wildflowers written by Kathi Appelt and illustrated by Joy, has received numerous awards, including Growing Good Kids Award, 2006; June Franklin Naylor, Honorable Mention, 2006; Children's Crown Award Finalist, 2006; and the Teddy Award, 2005

Selected Books Illustrated by Joy Fisher Hein

Miss Lady Bird's Wildflowers by Kathi Appelt

Sam Houston, Standing Firm by Mary Dodson Wade

David Crockett, Going Ahead by Mary Dodson Wade

Inspiration for Educators by Jan Kilby

I Remember Mama by Joyce Smith Williams

Desert Fire by Shirley Frederick

Acceptable Use of Artwork by Joy Fisher Hein

This year's Texas Reading Club artist is Joy Fisher Hein and she possesses the copyright to the artwork for Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas! The artwork is included in the 2009 Texas Reading Club manual on CD-ROM and in the online manual on the Texas State Library and Archives Commission web site.

In accordance with the artist's contract, the Texas State Library and Archives Commission grants Texas libraries and librarians a non-exclusive, non-transferable, limited right to reproduce all color artwork and clip art in the Texas Reading Club manual to promote the 2009 Texas Reading Club, their libraries, and reading. It may be used to create items such as crafts, t-shirts, programs, print promotional items, and library decorations. **If a library utilizes artwork in print or on promotional items, the artwork must include the copyright symbol designating Joy Fisher Hein as copyright holder.**

In addition, Texas libraries are granted permission to upload the color artwork and clip art onto their library web sites for the sole purpose of promoting the 2009 Texas Reading Club program, their libraries, and reading. If a library displays the artwork on a web site, the library is obligated to clearly state that it is for use only by Texas libraries and librarians. **If a library uploads artwork onto their web sites, the artwork must carry the copyright symbol designating Joy Fisher Hein as copyright holder. The library must also provide a link to the Acceptable Use of Artwork by Joy Fisher Hein.**

The color artwork on the certificate, poster, and bookmark may not be altered or modified in any way. Images may not be manipulated and colors may not be changed. It is, however, acceptable to use a portion of the artwork for promotion. For example, an image of a specific character or a portion of the artwork may be pulled from the whole art piece and placed on a button, flyer, or other promotional item. **The artwork must include the copyright symbol designating Joy Fisher Hein as copyright holder.**

All reproductions of the color poster, bookmark, and certificate must credit the Texas Reading Club and the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. They must retain the words, "**Texas Reading Club**" and "**The 2009 Texas Reading Club is Sponsored by Your Local Library and the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.**" This text appears on the color artwork and must remain on the poster, bookmark, and certificate.

Bookmarks, Borders, Buttons, Certificates, Reading Logs, and More!

Public libraries in Texas may use the artwork to create items for use as incentives, awards, and prizes that are given to teens. The artwork is the property of the artist. Please respect her work! **All images must include the copyright symbol with Joy Fisher Hein listed as copyright holder.** Libraries may resize and reverse the clip art, but may not alter it. The name of the library may be added, but the art is owned by the illustrator and should not be touched up, edited, or modified without permission. Color may be added to the clip art

only if the same color hues as represented in the poster, bookmark, and certificate are utilized.

The artwork may only be used on items that will be sold if the proceeds are returned to the library directly, or through a Friends of the Library organization, and sales are limited to Texas. Please direct questions to the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, 512-463-6623.

Something About the Authors and Songwriters

Heather Coleson

Heather Coleson, author of the Preschool Programs chapter, has worked for the Dallas Public Library and currently serves as a Children's Librarian at Nicholson Memorial Library System. Heather loves kids. She should, she has all the kids at Garland's Nicholson Memorial Library System's Central Library, plus four of her own! Between chauffeuring, Girl Scouts, and impromptu storytimes at home, Heather somehow manages to be a top-notch librarian. She holds a B.A. in History from UT Arlington and earned her MLS from the University of North Texas.

Miranda Bauer

Miranda Bauer, co-author of the Toddler Programs Chapter, is the Youth Services Librarian at the Benbrook Public Library, where she has worked for the past seven years. She previously worked for the Hill County College Library and the Crowley Public Library. Miranda earned her MLS at the University of North Texas.

WyLaina Hildreth

WyLaina Hildreth, co-author of the Toddler Programs Chapter, works at the Denton Public Library. Ms. Hildreth received her MLS from the University of North Texas. She was a co-author of the young adult and celebrations chapters of the 2007 Texas Reading Club manual and programs in the 2008 Texas Teens Read! manual.

Bonnie Langan

Bonnie Langan, co-author of the Elementary Programs Chapter, began working as a Children's Librarian at the Baldwin Boettcher Branch Library of the Harris County Public Library in August 2002 and now works at the Barbara Bush Branch. She earned her B.S. in Elementary Education with a minor in reading, and her MLS from Texas Woman's University. Bonnie tried working in adult services for a year but found children's work to be her calling. Bonnie enjoys her seven grandchildren and is expecting her eighth in October.

Kim Lehman

Kim Lehman, author of the Celebrations Programs Chapter, is celebrating 25 years of working with children as a teacher, professional storyteller, musician, puppeteer, and workshop presenter. She has performed at the Texas Library Association, Texas Storytelling Festival and was a frequent guest storyteller for a local children's television show. Kim recently produced a CD and activity book with over 30 songs to sing with children. After many years at the Austin Public Library, Kim is now a freelance performer and presenter currently on the Texas Commission on the Arts Touring Roster.

Kay Lincycomb

Kay Lincycomb, author of the puppet plays, is the children's librarian at the Rowlett Public Library. She received her Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from West Texas State University, and her MLS from North Texas State University. She previously worked for the Nicholson Memorial Library System in Garland, and for the Garland Independent School District. She is the author of *Storytimes Plus* (Neal-Shuman, 2007).

Sally Meyers

Sally Meyers, author of the piggyback theme song, has been the Youth Services Coordinator for the Tom Green County Library System in San Angelo for seventeen years. Previously she was teacher-director of La Escuelita Preschool for nine years. Sally served on the Texas Reading Club Advisory Committee from 1994-1998 and has written the summer reading piggyback theme song every year since 1995. She has served as a member of Children's Round Table's 2 X 2 Committee, served as chair of student participation on the Texas Bluebonnet Award Selection Committee from 2004 to 2006 and is presently chair of the Texas 2 x 2 Selection Committee. Besides reading, Sally enjoys being choir director at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in San Angelo.

Anne Neidinger

Anne Neidinger, co-author of the Elementary Programs Chapter, is a Children's Librarian at the Tomball College and Community Library of Harris County Public Library. Anne earned a Bachelor of Science in Journalism from Texas A&M University and a Master's in Library and Information Science from the University of North Texas. With Bonnie Langam, she published "Igniting a Children's Summer Reading Program on a Piggy-Bank Budget" in the *Texas Library Journal* (2006), and presented a contributed paper of the same title at the 2006 TLA Annual Conference. Anne's hobbies include writing for children and she was formerly regional advisor for the Austin chapter of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators.

Rose Treviño

Rose Treviño, author of the Para los niños chapter, is the Youth Services Coordinator for the Houston Public Library. An active member of the ALA Association of Library Services for Children, Rose is currently Chair of the Newbery Award Committee. Rose has served on the ALA Pura Belpré Award Selection Committee, the TLA Texas Bluebonnet Award Committee, and the TLA 2 X 2 Reading List Committee. She also served as Co-chair of the Youth Services Committee for REFORMA, Chair of the TLA Kellogg Foundation Committee to promote El día de los niños, el día de los libros throughout Texas, and Chair of the TLA Children's Round Table. In addition, Rose is a consultant and presents workshops for librarians in the area of youth services.

Sue Young

Singer/Songwriter, Sue Young, wrote the 2009 Texas Reading Club theme song, "Deep in the Heart". Sue grew up in a big, music-loving family. Her mother played the piano, her father played ukelele and tenor guitar, all five children played an instrument, and everyone sang. Sue started on ukelele at age 8, moved to guitar at 11, and has been singing and playing ever since. Sue spent a year in Ecuador during college and graduated from the University of New Mexico with a Spanish degree. She moved to Austin, Texas in 1985 to be part of the live music scene. She wound up teaching music and Spanish to children and that led to a new career as a children's songwriter and storyteller. Sue has delighted audiences at schools, libraries and festivals around the US, and her 2007 CD Release "The Legend of the Quetzal – Tales and Tunes of Latin America" received a Parents' Choice Silver Honor Award and a Creative Child Seal of Excellence. Sue is the creator of the 2008 Texas Reading Club Theme Song, "Deep in the Heart."

Introduction

Theme

The theme of the 2009 Texas Reading Club is Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas! and the programs provided in this manual invite children to explore the marvelous cultural heritage of our state. Texas librarians translated this theme into Spanish, and it is ¡Bibliotecas: En lo más profundo del corazón de Tejas! The theme invites children to explore Texas symbols, history, geography, legends, plants, animals, and culture.

Goals and Purpose

The goals of the Texas Reading Club are to encourage the children and families of Texas to read for pleasure, to help children maintain and improve their reading skills, to encourage them to become lifelong readers and library users, and to establish reading as a foundation for academic success.

The purpose of this manual is to assist library staff and volunteers who serve young people by suggesting programs and materials that will attract children to the library for enjoyable learning experiences. When all children and families in Texas know that the library is a friendly and welcoming place and have the opportunity to enjoy library materials, programs, and services, we will have achieved our goal.

Research has shown that when children have the freedom to select books that they want to read, they read more. The school curriculum frequently demands that students read certain books, and school programs may require that students read books from lists and be tested on those books. Reading for pleasure means having the freedom to read what is pleasing to the reader. Programs like the Texas Reading Club are designed specifically to encourage free-choice reading.

Research also shows that reading during school vacations allows children to maintain and improve reading skills achieved during the academic year. This is especially critical for new readers and for children who have difficulty reading.

Children who enjoy regular visits to the library are more likely to continue to be readers and library supporters as adults. In many communities, the library plays an important role by equalizing access to information, technology, creative experiences, and educational and recreational materials for all children and their caregivers. For more information on research related to summer reading and public libraries, consult the section of this manual titled, "Research Related to Summer Reading."

Using This Manual

The 2009 Texas Reading Club manual is available on-line at www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/2009/index.html and on CD-ROM. The chapters in this manual are arranged by age level to allow library staff and volunteers to select program ideas that are appropriate for toddlers, preschool children, and elementary school children. Ideas are also provided for opening and closing celebrations that include a variety of ages. A Bilingual Programs Chapter

that highlights the *Para los niños* family literacy program developed by the Houston Public Library and the Houston Children's Museum is included. A science and math chapter is included to assist librarians in incorporating science and math activities into programs for children of all ages.

While volunteers and staff new to children's programming will find all of the information needed to conduct programs in the chapters of the Texas Reading Club manual, more experienced staff may select elements to create their own programs. In most cases, more than enough material is provided for a typical program, allowing the staff and volunteers to select the ideas that best match the community's interests, resources, and opportunities. Many of the professional resources listed in the programs will have additional ideas which are not included in the manual.

Please also note the information concerning public performance of music and film in library programs and the summary of the research on the importance of summer reading which are both included in the introduction.

Each chapter includes a combination of the following components.

- Books to share, display, and booktalk
- Fingerplays, rhymes, and poetry
- Songs or citations to books and web sites where lyrics and music can be found
- Riddles and jokes
- Reader's Theater scripts, puppet plays, and stories, or citations to books and web sites where these can be found
- Crafts
- Games and activities
- Guest speakers
- Bulletin boards, displays, decorations, and nametags
- Refreshments
- Audio recordings, Videos/DVD's/Films
- Web-based activities, web sites, and CD-ROMs
- Professional resources for additional program planning or for library staff to use within a program

Clip Art

Children's book illustrator, Joy Fisher Hein, created the exquisite artwork for the 2009 Texas Reading Club. The clip art is the intellectual property of the artist, Joy Fisher Hein, but Texas libraries have the right to use it to promote the 2009 Texas Reading Club and their libraries in accordance with the "Acceptable Use of Artwork" that is included in this manual. The clip art is available in both the web site and the CD-ROM manual formats. Librarians may enlarge or reduce the art, reverse it, flip it, or crop it, but may not alter it in any other way. Texas libraries may use the clip art for crafts, programs, flyers, decorations, and other library-related materials. For example, use the clip art to create any of the following items:

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- Craft items
- Bulletin board decorations
- Tabletop or shelf decorations
- Program mementos
- Coloring sheets
- Refrigerator magnets or other incentives

Commercial vendors may use the clip art to create incentives and promotional items for Texas libraries but must contact the Texas State Library and Archives Commission for specific guidelines and must agree to honor the artist's copyright.

Theme Songs

Two theme songs are included in this manual: A piggyback song by Sally Meyers and an original theme song by singer/songwriter, Sue Young. The words to the piggyback song are included in the manual. Sue Young's theme song is available as a sound file on the Texas State Library and Archives web site at www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/2009/index.html and is on the CD-ROM of this manual. A statement of *Appropriate Use of Theme Song* is included below. The recording may be used without fee for any non-commercial library use in Texas in accordance with the *Appropriate Use of Theme Song*.

A Note About Web Sites

Web sites with background information or instructions on program topics, with additional resources on the program topics, or with on-line activities for children are recommended for many of the programs. These are suitable for children or for use by the library staff and volunteers to provide additional activities. Librarians might bookmark those sites intended for children on the library's computers or display them near the computers. Some web sites are also included in the professional resources sections, and some of these may be available through NetLibrary, a Texshare resource. These are resources for the library staff and are not likely to be of interest to youngsters. A brief annotation has been provided to help you determine how the site might fit your program.

All of the web sites were active as of January 2009. Sites often change, move, or are removed. It is highly advisable for librarians to view the web sites before directing children to them. If an error message appears, it may be necessary to search for the web page title using a search engine to find the new location of the site. Additionally, librarians might use a search engine to locate another web site that includes the referenced information. Occasionally, web sites lapse and are taken over by inappropriate content. While the Texas State Library and Archives Commission does everything possible to find more stable sites, and to remove inappropriate sites from the on-line copy of the Texas Reading Club Manual, it is imperative that library staff view the sites before allowing children to use them to ensure that the content remains suitable.

Web pages included in this manual may contain links to additional web sites which are managed by organizations, companies, or individuals. These sites are not under the control of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, and the Texas State Library is not responsible for the information or links that they

include. This manual provides links as a convenience, and the presence of the links is not an endorsement of the sites by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

Library Outreach

It is our goal to reach as many children as possible and provide them with opportunities to learn about libraries and the joys of reading. Many children are not able to come to the library on their own. Many young children are in childcare and Head Start centers during the day. Parents, especially in low-income families, may not know about library programs and services or may not have the time or transportation to bring their children to the library. It is important that librarians reach out to all youth, especially those who might otherwise not have opportunities for literature-related experiences. Librarians are encouraged to establish outreach programs for underserved children, including those with disabilities, those in families for which English is not the first language, and those whose families lack the financial resources for transportation.

While we certainly wish to encourage children and families to visit the library, library staff and volunteers must also bring library programs and services to children and families who may not be aware of library programs, or who may not have access to them. Librarians are encouraged to collaboratively sponsor reading clubs in locations throughout the community where children are during the day, such as childcare and Head Start centers, recreation centers, health clinics, housing projects, and other locations. Library staff may encourage staff at partner organizations to apply for a group or business library card that allows them to borrow materials for use by the children they serve. Volunteers may assist by bringing depository collections of books and reading club supplies to the outreach locations.

Another way to reach underserved children and families is to bring library programs, such as storytimes, crafts, puppet shows, and other events to locations in the community. These may be one-time events, such as storytime at a grocery store or shopping center, or ongoing partnerships with schools, children's museums, or recreation centers. Often local shopping malls, movie theaters, museums, and such sponsor summer "camps" which provide weekly activities for children. Contact the organization and offer to help by providing a storytime or craft activity.

Connect outreach activities to the library by giving children bookmarks, flyers, or other materials to take home. Distribute items such as stickers that proclaim, "I visited my library today" which are available through Upstart, www.highsmith.com. Alternatively, make custom stickers with self-adhesive labels and a printer. Not only will program statistics increase, but there will also be an increase in traffic at the library, and the library have demonstrated a commitment to serving all children.

Librarians sometimes believe that everyone knows they are welcome in the library. However, this is not always the case. Invite and welcome children and families to visit the library.

Research Related to Summer Reading

We all believe that summer reading is good for children. Researchers have been studying the educational value and impact of summer reading programs for more than fifty years. The classic study, *Summer Learning and the Effects of Schooling* by Barbara Heynes (Academic Press, 1978), confirmed many of our assumptions, and additional studies have further defined the importance of public library summer reading programs. A few of her specific findings include:

- The number of books read during the summer is consistently related to academic gains.
- Children in every income group who read six or more books over the summer gained more in reading achievement than children who did not.
- The use of the public library during the summer is more predictive of vocabulary gains than attending summer school.
- "More than any other public institution, including the schools, the public library contributed to the intellectual growth of children during the summer." (p.77)

As librarians seek funding, support, and donations for the reading club, it will be useful to discuss the value of the program. Consider the findings of these additional studies.

Libraries continue to play a major role in fostering literacy, especially among those most needing assistance in developing literacy skills, e.g., preschool and elementary school children. (Celano, Donna and Susan B. Neuman. *The Role of Public Libraries in Children's Literacy Development: An Evaluation Report*. Pennsylvania Library Association, 2001.) Available on-line at www.statelibrary.state.pa.us/libraries/lib/libraries/Role%20of%20Libraries.pdf.

- Reading as a leisure activity is the best predictor of comprehension, vocabulary, and reading speed. (Krashen, Stephen. *The Power of Reading*. Libraries Unlimited, 1993.)
- Having elementary school pupils read four or five books during the summer can prevent the reading-achievement losses that normally occur over those months. (Kim, Jimmy S. "Summer Reading and the Ethnic Achievement Gap." *Journal of Education for Students Placed at Risk*, Vol. 9, No. 2, Pages 169-188).

In a study funded by the Los Angeles County Public Library Foundation, researchers found that before the summer, 77% of parents reported their child read 9 hours or less per week. During the summer, parents reported a 9% increase in the number of children reading 10-14 hours per week, and the number of children reading 15 or more books per week rose 11%. (Evaluation and Training Institute for the Los Angeles County Public Library Foundation. *Evaluation of the Public Library Summer Reading Program: Books and Beyond...Take Me to Your Reader! Final Report*, December 2001.

From an economic perspective, Steve Brown, director of North Richland Hills (TX) Public Library, looked at the dollar value of summer reading. In his article, "What Is a Summer Worth?" (*Texas Library Journal*, Summer 2005), Brown calculated

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the cost for teachers to review basic reading skills. Based on his figures and hypothetical situation, public library summer reading programs save schools \$873 per reader. Calculate this value times the number of children who participate in the program and there is a significant a return on a small investment.

Another study by the Urban Libraries Council, released in 2007, suggests that early literacy programs in public libraries, such as lapsit, toddler, and preschool storytimes, contribute to economic development by preparing children for success in school. This report is on-line at www.urbanlibraries.org/files/making_cities_stronger.pdf. While we want children to have fun, use the library, enjoy reading, and check out library materials, these studies show that public library summer reading programs also play an important role in the education of our children.

Every Child Ready to Read @ your library

Every Child Ready to Read @ your library is a joint project of the Public Library Association and the Association for Library Service to Children, both divisions of the American Library Association. Current research on early literacy and brain development indicates that it is never too early to prepare children for success as readers and learners. Every Child Ready to Read @ your library incorporates the latest research into a series of parent and caregiver workshops. Training kits for workshops, videos, posters, brochures in Spanish and English, information about research, and more are available from the American Library Association at www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/ecrr/ecrrhomepage.cfm. These resources provide public librarians with vital tools to help inform parents of newborns, toddlers, and preschoolers of their critical role as their children's first teacher. They also enable librarians to offer early literacy workshops for parents in their community.

Researchers have found that there is almost a 90% probability that a child will remain a poor reader at the end of the fourth grade if the child is a poor reader at the end of the first grade. There is a clear relationship between the early literacy skills children have when they enter school and their later academic performance. Every Child Ready to Read @ your library emphasizes six important pre-reading skills that children must understand in order to successfully learn to read. In the Toddler Programs Chapter of this manual, there are suggestions for ways to incorporate these early literacy skills into the summer reading programs.

1. Narrative Skills: Being able to describe things and events and tell stories.
2. Print Motivation: Being interested in and enjoying books.
3. Letter Knowledge: Knowing letters are different from each other, knowing their names and recognizing letters everywhere.
4. Phonological Awareness: Being able to hear and play with the similar sounds in words.
5. Vocabulary: Knowing the names of things.
6. Print Awareness: Noticing print, knowing how to handle a book, and knowing how to follow the words on a page.

Use some of the suggested techniques to incorporate the six pre-reading skills into storytimes during Texas Reading Club programs and throughout the year. Begin by displaying an Every Child Ready to Read @ your library poster in the storytime room. Before storytime, remind parents of their important role in early literacy and encourage them to attend storytime with their children. At storytime, briefly describe one or two of the six pre-reading skills and model them for the parents.

Narrative Skills

- Read a book or tell a flannel story. After you finish, ask the children to tell you the order in which the characters appeared in the story or the plot. If you are using a flannel board, let the children place the characters on the board in the order in which they appeared in the story.
- Read a book or tell a simple story. After you finish, encourage the children to tell their version of the story to someone at home or on the way home from storytime.
- Teach the children a repetitive word or phrase from a book or story. Ask them to listen and repeat the word or phrase whenever it is used in the story.

Print Motivation

- Show your enthusiasm and enjoyment of books as you read them during storytime.
- Display additional books related to the storytime theme and encourage the children to check them out after storytime.
- Begin reading a storytime book. At a crucial point momentarily close the book, and see if the children react.

Letter Knowledge

- Incorporate the first letter of your weekly theme into your storytime. For instance, if the theme is pigs, display an upper and lower case "P" and demonstrate the letter's sound. Have the children repeat the sound.
- Make nametags for the children to wear each week.
- Display posters and signs in the storytime room.
- Invite the children to play with letter puzzles after storytime.

Phonological Awareness

- Sing songs that allow children to hear how words are broken into syllables. For example, sing "The Eensy Weensy Spider" and clearly enunciate the syllables.
- Read a book or present a flannel board story with rhyming words. Repeat the rhyming words when the story ends.

- Recite Mother Goose and other simple rhymes. Ask the children to repeat them.

Vocabulary

- If a book contains a word that the children may not know, introduce the word before reading the book and tell the children what the word means. Ask them to listen for the word in the story. After you finish reading a book, repeat the word. Have the children repeat the word and briefly talk about its meaning again. Describe the word in context to the story.
- Connect new words to something the children may have experienced.
- Display objects or pictures representing new words.
- After you read a book or finish a flannel board story, ask the children to name the objects in the story.

Print Awareness

- Run a finger under the title of the book as you read it aloud.
- Point to a repetitive word in a story and have the children say it each time you read the word, or have them repeat a refrain.
- Pull a book out of the storytime bag, have a big book placed upside down on a stand, or open a book backwards and hold it incorrectly. Watch to see if the children react. Then show the children the correct way to display or hold a book.

Help parents feel comfortable with their role in their child's literacy development by providing take-home sheets and handouts whenever possible. The handouts can include song lyrics, rhymes, fingerplays, games, and suggestions for additional activities that parents or caregivers can practice with the child between storytimes. In addition to the resources available through the Every Child Ready to Read @ your library web site, materials in manuals provided by the Texas State Library may be used in your library. Copies of past Texas Reading Club manuals, along with other early literacy resources such as "Read to Your Bunny" and "El día de los niños: El día de los libros," are available on-line at www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/pubs/index.html, near the end of the page under "Youth Services."

Legalities

Several legal issues may affect the programs in the library. If there are questions about a specific situation, please seek legal counsel. The Texas State Library and Archives Commission shares this information but is unable to offer legal advice.

The Bingo Enabling Act

Bingo games fit so many areas of our programs; it is an easy game to play, and can be tailored for almost any topic. While it may be tempting to play "Sports Bingo," "Nutrition Bingo," or even "lotería de leer," as summer programs are

planned, please be aware that it is a third degree felony, subject to a \$10,000 fine and three years of jail time, to sponsor any bingo without a license.

The Bingo Enabling Act forbids libraries, schools, and non-profit organizations to sponsor any type of Bingo game without a license from the Texas Lottery Commission. Licenses are required for all types of bingo, including Mexican Bingo or lotería.

According to the State of Texas Lottery Commission, bingo "means a specific game of chance, commonly known as Bingo or lotto, in which prizes are awarded on the basis of designated numbers or symbols conforming to numbers or symbols selected at random." It is tempting to think that because we don't charge fees to play, or we are basing a game on books, library resources, or educational topics, or that we are not offering any prizes, that the game is not really bingo. If it looks anything like bingo and the winner is determined by chance, then don't take the chance that you'll get in trouble! Play Wheel of Fortune, Jeopardy, or another game instead.

Licenses are only available to organizations that hold a 501c exemption from the IRS and have been in existence for at least 3 years. Applying for a license may take 30 to 60 days. Application forms are available on-line at www.txbingo.org. According to the Lottery Commission, a license may cost from \$100 to \$2500 per year. Libraries with bingo licenses must charge participants who play bingo and must collect taxes. They must maintain records and file quarterly reports with the Texas Lottery Commission. Additionally, "An individual younger than 18 years of age may not play bingo conducted under a license issued under this chapter unless the individual is accompanied by the individual's parent or guardian." For more information on the Bingo Enabling Act, please visit the Texas Lottery Commission's web site at www.txbingo.org. Specifically, see Subchapter L. Enforcement, Sec. 2001.551. Unlawful Bingo; Offense.

Copyright Issues

This section will discuss copyright primarily as it relates to public performance of music and videos in library programs and will provide some basic information about copyright as it relates to public libraries. The information is intended to help library staff and volunteers understand issues related to the use of materials protected by copyright in library programs. Please consult an attorney with questions about copyright and fair use. The information provided in this section is not intended to provide legal advice.

Written works such as books, poetry, magazine articles, or jokes, music, and film, are considered creative property and are covered by copyright law unless they are in the public domain. All items are covered by copyright upon their creation by default, regardless of whether the creator registers the copyright or includes a notice of copyright on the work. A creative work that is not protected by copyright is said to be in the public domain. Everyone may freely use works that are in the public domain. A work may be in the public domain if any of the following are true.

- The term of copyright for the work has expired
- The author failed to satisfy statutory formalities to perfect the copyright

- The work was created by the U.S. Government

In general, works created before 1923 are now in the public domain. Works created after 1923 are subject to a variety of laws that regulate copyright and renewal of copyright. The Cornell Copyright Information Center at www.copyright.cornell.edu/training/Hirtle_Public_Domain.htm provides an excellent chart outlining copyright terms for various types of materials.

Some writers want their material to be widely available and choose not to enforce copyright. Copyright owners may specifically “license” certain kinds of free use, such as those used for non-commercial or educational purposes. It is important to understand, however, that just because something is “freely available” or can be found in many locations on the Internet, the item is probably still covered by copyright. Assume that someone owns the copyright to material unless there is documentation to the contrary!

Just to add to the complexities, some art becomes so intricately connected to a specific company that even though the copyright may have expired, the material does not become part of the public domain because it is part of the company's trademark. Mickey Mouse, for example, was created in 1920 and therefore should no longer be covered by copyright. However, as a symbol of the Walt Disney Company, representations of Mickey are covered by other rules, and making copies of Mickey Mouse are not allowable.

In order to comply with copyright, this manual included the text of poems, songs, stories, etc., when these items are in the public domain or when specific approval has been granted for their use. Otherwise, information is provided on how to find the material recommended for the program. Whenever possible, links to clip art and patterns that can be freely used for non-commercial purposes in libraries are provided.

For more information about copyright, including fact sheets about fair use and searchable databases to determine copyright ownership, go to the Library of Congress, www.copyright.gov.

Music

Questions have been raised about the use of recorded music in public library storytimes and other programs. A public performance is defined as, “one in a place open to the public or at any place where a substantial number of persons outside of a normal circle of a family and its social acquaintances might gather.” Damages of a minimum of \$750 for each infraction might be levied for unlawful public performance. If you use music in storytimes, programs, puppet shows, and other library programs, you may wish to get legal advice as to whether or not a license is required for those public performances or whether the use is considered “fair use” under copyright laws.

It might be possible to argue that storytimes are an educational setting, in which case exceptions to the exclusive rights of a copyright owner for educational uses might apply. Many libraries have a “curriculum” for preschool storytimes that focus on pre-literacy skills such as learning the alphabet, concepts, and colors, or the early literacy skills. Such “curriculums” would support an argument that the use should meet the requirements for teaching exceptions. If you intend to rely

on this exception, you should seek legal advice to gain a more complete understanding of the teaching exception than can be provided by the Texas State Library.

Music that is played while families enter the program room, theme music for puppet shows, a song played to start or end the storytime program each week, background music for gatherings, or music played for a teen program, would probably not be considered either an educational exception or a fair use. For those uses, the library needs a public performance license or licenses. Even if the children sing a song, it is technically considered a public performance, and a license is required unless the song is in the public domain.

Recently a judge found that even karaoke played in a public place violated copyright. When a karaoke machine was set up by a disc jockey in a public place, an investigator for Broadcast Music, Inc., was in the audience. The business and the disc jockey were sued for violation of copyright because the business did not have the appropriate licenses.

It is not always easy to determine if a specific song is in the public domain. For example, "Happy Birthday to You" is a popular song that is not in the public domain, while "Old MacDonald Had a Farm" is a traditional song that is in the public domain. Check out Public Domain Music, www.pdinfo.com, a reference site for songs that may be in the public domain. Keep in mind that just because a song is in the public domain, does not mean that the specific recording of the song is. The artist may have rearranged the public domain song and copyrighted that version; in that case, it is only permissible to use the original lyrics and arrangement, not the copyrighted performance of the music.

Before you start rolling your eyes and thinking to yourself, "The copyright police won't catch us, and anyway, we've been doing this forever," stop and think. First, libraries should be in the forefront of protecting copyright and setting a good example for patrons. We tell kids they should not illegally download MP3 files. If we publicly perform music without appropriate permission, our actions are comparably illegal. Second, it's easy to get a public performance license and in fact, your city or county may already have one that covers the library.

The public performance of music is licensed by three organizations. When a songwriter or composer signs a deal for the music to be recorded, that person joins only one of them. As a member of one of these organizations, the musician authorizes that organization to license the public performance of his or her music and collect fees for that use. Libraries may need a license from more than one of these organizations.

Most U.S. songwriters and composers join either the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Performers (ASCAP) at www.ascap.com, or Broadcast Music, Inc. (BMI) at www.bmi.com. They are the two major licensing organizations in the United States. Both provide low-cost licenses for governmental organizations. A third organization, SESAC, Inc., at www.sesac.com is relatively new in the United States. It licenses music that the other two organizations do not. All three organizations provide on-line databases of performers and titles covered so that what is used is covered by the license you have purchased. If you use varied sources of music, you may need licenses

from all three organizations, or you will need to be very selective in your music use!

Chances are good that your city or county already has a license if it offers dance classes at the recreation center, provides musical sing-alongs at the senior activity building, or holds regular outdoor parades or concerts. Check with your public information office, parks and recreation department, purchasing department, or the city or county legal department to see if a license exists and for which licensing organization. If none of these offices are aware of a license, then you can educate them about the need for one. If your city or county does not already have a license, fees are based on population. For a local government with a population of up to 50,000 people, a license would cost less than \$275 a year based on a 2005 fee schedule for BMI.

There are several different types of "rights." If you plan to include music on a video, web site, or in some other manner, please read about relevant licensing requirements or consult legal counsel. Note that the public performance of music via digital transmission (such as over the Web) implicates additional rights that these organizations cannot license. Although these three organizations license performance over the Web of the underlying musical score, it is also necessary to obtain permission to perform via digital transmission the sound recording itself. This is a very complex area of copyright law, so if you are considering making digital transmissions of music, check out How Stuff Works at <http://entertainment.howstuffworks.com/music-licensing3.htm> for some background, but legal advice is most likely necessary.

Films

Many of the programs suggested in this manual include recommended videos or DVDs. In some cases, a specific segment is suggested for showing in the library during your program. If you do not have public performance rights to show the film, or the film is too long to show during your program, display the video or DVD for families to borrow.

Follow copyright law by using films, videos, or DVDs that are in the public domain and those which that were purchased with public performance rights or with a site license that allows the library to show "home use" videos. Some of the Texas Library Systems have negotiated pricing for system members, so check with your system office.

The cost of an annual movie license is based on the number of registered patrons and is often less expensive than purchasing public performance rights to show just a few movies. For example, an annual license for a library with 5,000 registered patrons costs about \$250 and covers most movie studios, including Buena Vista Films and Dreamworks. The average cost per patron for a license to show movies for a year is about five cents. Contact Movie Licensing USA at www.movlic.com or call 1-888-267-2658 for details. Be sure to ask a representative of Movie Licensing USA about discounts that may be available.

Many early comedies, horror films, and cartoons, such as those featuring characters like The Three Stooges, Laurel and Hardy, and Betty Boop, may be in the public domain. Several businesses that sell public domain films provide lists of films that, to the best of their knowledge, are in the public domain. For

example, although Desert Island Films at www.desertislandfilms.com does not sell VHS copies to individuals, you can use the list on their web site to check whether your library owns films that are free of copyright restrictions.

Serving Children with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires public libraries to make reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities so that they have access to the library building, programs, and materials. When planning for the 2009 Texas Reading Club, remember that programs that work for children with disabilities will also work for all children. With a little planning, inexpensive adaptations, and the desire to be inclusive of all children, the Texas Reading Club will be accessible for children with disabilities. In addition to being the law, inclusiveness is good policy and encourages more participation in library programs.

Check with local schools for sign language interpreters. Check with sign language classes and invite several students to practice what they have learned. Find out where in your community you can locate sign language interpreters in case you need to hire someone to interpret a program. Often interpreters will volunteer their time in order to make library programs inclusive. Send special invitations to families with deaf children; the deaf community is very appreciative of efforts to include all children in programs and is very supportive of staff and volunteers who are willing to try signing. Create a display of captioned videos and books that include sign language.

The Talking Book Program (TBP), a division of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC), has a Disability Information and Referral Center (DIRC) that provides information about adaptive equipment, games and toys, support groups, the ADA, and serving people with disabilities. Questions are answered by DIRC staff or are referred to other appropriate sources. The DIRC can be reached toll-free at 1-800-252-9605 or 512-463-5458, or by e-mail at tbp.services@tsl.state.tx.us.

The Talking Book Program is a joint state and federal program that provides unabridged books in alternate formats for Texans of all ages who are unable to read standard print materials due to visual, physical, or reading disabilities. The service is free to the user and available to all who qualify because they are unable to read standard print materials due to temporary or permanent visual or physical limitations.

A properly certified application must be submitted for each prospective patron verifying that the application meets one or more of the federal eligibility criteria.

The criteria are:

- Blindness;
- A visual disability of sufficient severity to prevent the reading of standard print without the use of an aid other than prescription glasses;
- A physical disability that prevents the individual from holding a book or turning a page; or

- A reading disability that is physically based and of sufficient severity to prevent the reading of standard print material in a normal manner.

Applications submitted for individuals with reading disabilities must be certified by a medical doctor or doctor of osteopathy. Applications submitted for individuals with other disabilities can be certified by a number of professionals in various fields related to health care, education, or rehabilitation, or by a professional librarian or library director.

TBP provides books on cassette tape, in Braille, in large print, and via digital download. Special playback equipment is loaned free of charge for use with books on cassette. All materials are circulated to TBP patrons free of charge through the U.S. Postal Service.

Because TBP patrons are located throughout the state and interaction is limited to telephone and mail communications, TBP encourages younger patrons to participate in Texas Reading Club activities sponsored by their local public library. TBP will provide the books in alternate formats so that young patrons with disabilities can participate in local programs.

Because library staff understands the importance of books in the lives of their patrons, they play a critical role in referring qualified individuals to the TBP services. Applications and brochures are available to keep in your library. By making this information available in your community and alerting eligible individuals about TBP, you are helping young readers with disabilities make the most of the Texas Reading Club!

Call or write TBP with your questions or requests for applications.

Talking Book Program

Texas State Library and Archives Commission

P.O. Box 12927

Austin, TX 78711-2927

1-800-252-9605 (toll-free in Texas)

512-463-5458 (Austin area)

512-463-5436 (fax)

tbp.services@tsl.state.tx.us (e-mail)

Web site: www.tsl.state.tx.us/tbp or www.texastalkingbooks.org

Marketing, Cooperation, and PR

Marketing is an important part of planning a successful program. There are often many events for children and families, even in the smallest communities. They may not know about the wonderful programs scheduled at the library. For a successful program, advertise, promote, and market in as many ways as possible. Promotion must be ongoing, consistent, reliable, and fresh. Promotion is not a one-time activity. Often people do not pay attention to publicity until they have a need to hear what you have to say, so make sure that your message is repeated time and time again. Even people who may never step foot into the library should still be aware of the library's programs and services.

Much of a library's marketing efforts will focus on ensuring that parents know about the programs and attracting an audience. Marketing includes telling the story of the library and its programs. Word of mouth, especially to an audience already in the library, is the most effective marketing tool available. Enlist as many people as possible to tell the library's story. Tell administrators and staff, funders, and support groups such as Friends of the Library about the interesting and successful programs so they can share the stories. Their stories may lead to additional and unanticipated opportunities. If you have limited experience with public relations and marketing, check out the free on-line PR Toolkit available from the Texas Library Association at www.txla.org/html/toolkit/index.html.

As part of your public relations efforts, put together a media kit. This does not have to be elaborate but should include the following:

- Press releases
- Schedule of events
- Feature story about the Texas Reading Club
- Public service announcements for radio
- Publicity letters for newspapers, schools, and city officials
- Samples of Summer Reading Club materials, such as bookmarks and certificates

Press Releases

Press releases follow a standard format. For most media outlets, they do not need to be elaborate. Most community newspaper editors want "just the facts." Press releases must, however, include enough information to attract interest and sound newsworthy. What you write may encourage the editor to assign a reporter to cover your program, in which case the reporter will call for more details. In larger communities, the newspaper may only list the basic facts. Newspapers in small communities often print the entire press release as a "news" story and may even print a photograph, if one is included. Digital photos are often acceptable if they are of high enough resolution to be useable. Review each newspaper's policy about the required file format and resolution. Follow these tips for successful press releases.

Space in newspapers is usually limited. Learn each media outlet's deadlines and send the press release on time or a little early. Generally, it's first-come, first-served for available space unless your press release attracts someone's attention.

- Use simple sentences, straightforward language, and short paragraphs.
- Put the most important information first and include additional information further into the press release to be used if space permits.
- Accuracy is important! Double-check spelling and grammar, the date and time of the event, the address, and the phone number. Ask someone to proofread your press release.
- Submit regular press releases for individual programs throughout the summer. A single press release for an entire series of programs may be overlooked or set aside by the target audience.
- Print your press release on library letterhead.

- Double-space all releases that are submitted on paper.
- Limit the release to one page or less.
- Attach a Texas Reading Club flyer to your press release.
- Include contact information so the media will know how to reach the program director for more information or to cover your program in more detail.

The first paragraph of a press release is the lead and it sets the stage for the message. Make the point quickly and grab the readers' attention!

The 2009 Texas Reading Club, *Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!*, provides opportunities for children of all ages to enjoy reading. It begins on June 6, 2009 at the Bluebonnet Public Library. This free program is co-sponsored by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission and includes weekly reading activities and events.

Add details in the next paragraph and, if possible, include a human-interest angle or a quote. It is appropriate to "put words" in your director's mouth by providing a quote.

"More than 200 children read for over 1000 hours last summer," said Library Director I. M. Reading. "This year we anticipate that the children of Bluebonnet will break that record and read for at least twice as many hours." Local school officials applauded the public library for its efforts to help local school children maintain and improve their reading skills.

Provide additional information, such as the library web site, phone number, hours, etc.

Information about the Texas Reading Club is available by calling 555-1234 and on the Library's web site, www.ippl.org. Programs will run through August 1, 2009. The Bluebonnet Public Library is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from noon to 6:00 p.m.

Add a headline at the top (Bluebonnet Kids Celebrate Reading!) and put the contact information at the bottom of the press release. Date the press release and, if the information is for immediate publication, say so. "Embargoed" press releases request that information not be published before a certain date. Most libraries do not need to send embargoed press releases. Even though the press release may repeat some information, it is important to include all of the programs in case something is cut.

Press Release

May 15, 2009

For Immediate Release

Bluebonnet Kids Celebrate Reading!

Public Library Announces

Summer Reading Program for Bluebonnet Children

The 2009 Texas Reading Club, *Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!*, provides opportunities for children of all ages to enjoy reading. It begins on June 6, 2008 at the Bluebonnet Public Library. This free program is co-sponsored by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission and includes weekly reading activities and events.

"More than 200 children read for over 1000 hours last summer," said Library Director I. M. Reading. "This year we anticipate that the children of Bluebonnet will break that record and read for at least twice as many hours." Local school officials applauded the public library for its efforts to help local school children maintain and improve their reading skills.

Information about the Texas Reading Club is available by calling 555-1234 and on the Library's web site, www.ippl.org. Programs will run through August 1, 2008. The Bluebonnet Public Library is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from noon to 6:00 p.m.

Contact: Mary Booker
Youth Librarian
Bluebonnet Public Library
1234 Book Buyer Road
Bluebonnet, TX 12345
Phone 555-1234

Check each media outlet's web site for deadlines, contact information, and other requirements, or call to get this information. Monthly publications have deadlines 6 to 8 weeks before the publication date. Most other venues prefer to receive information 10 to 14 days in advance. While timeliness is essential, it is not a good idea to send a press release too early as it might be misplaced or discarded.

Most newspapers, radio stations, and television outlets now accept press releases via e-mail or fax. This saves time and postage. Prepare the press release on stationary if it will be faxed. If it will be sent via e-mail, you should still write the release in letter style. Do not send a press release as an attachment, as some e-mail services will not accept them and the message may be ignored or returned.

If addressing a press release to a specific individual, it is important to spell the person's name correctly. If you send your press release to more than one media outlet, it is not necessary to personalize each press release. If using e-mail and sending the same press release to several outlets, blind carbon them, or hide the e-mail addresses by using the e-mail software's list function. This will prevent a long list of addresses from taking up the first screen of your message. This also prevents the editor from seeing he or she is not a unique recipient.

Don't overlook smaller newspapers, specialty papers (such as *The Greensheet*), and neighborhood association newsletters. Especially in larger communities, these media outlets may welcome your publicity and their readership may reach new markets for the library. If you do not know all of the local newspapers in your community, you will find many of them on Newslink at <http://newslink.org/txnews.html>. Other helpful alternatives that can be looked at are local business newspapers, alternative and specialty journals, college publications, and ethnic newspapers on this web site. Many communities have

Spanish-language or Hispanic cultural publications, weekly newspapers for the African-American community, and publications for other community groups. For example, college newspapers will reach married students and single parents. Austin Public Library regularly submits information about library programs to a publication called *The Good Life*. It is aimed at "older" adults but many readers are non-custodial parents or grandparents who may be looking for children's activities. Ask a local television or radio station to be a media sponsor for the Texas Reading Club.

Let Friends of the Library, city or county officials, and staff and volunteers know about the Texas Reading Club. They will be some of the best sources for word-of-mouth marketing and may be willing to include information in their church newsletter, company e-mail, or other publicity venues.

Another outlet for free publicity is the community events or calendar section of media web sites. Most television stations, newspapers, radio stations, and official city or county web sites have calendars. Submit information about library programs about two weeks in advance. Submit information to local cable television stations also. Many run community information bulletins.

Many libraries have started using blogs to promote programs and keep the public informed about and involved in library activities. A blog is a web-based log, somewhat like a diary or journal. You may read an article about library blogs, "Why and How to Use Blogs to Promote Your Library's Services" by Darlene Fichter, at Information Today.com at <http://www.infotoday.com/MLS/nov03/fichter.shtml>. As Fichter notes, blogs are a great way to reach younger library users and to let your library's personality shine through. In addition to using blogs to promote the library, some librarians are setting up blogs for young people to share their thoughts about the books they are reading and to recommend books to others. What a great way to promote your reading club!

If you are not currently taking digital photographs, consider doing so. They are inexpensive to print and you print only what is needed. Many drug stores and one-hour photo labs can produce high quality prints for less than fifty cents. Many newsletters will accept electronic photographs to print with a story. They also make great "thank you" gifts for sponsors and donors. *Kodak* offers on-line tutorials and tips for digital photography at its www.kodak.com. Click on "Consumer Photography" and select "Taking Great Pictures."

Public relations and marketing is a cumulative process. It cannot be done just one time. Submit press releases consistently and regularly. Talk with the media contacts and solicit their support as co-sponsors of your program. Thank them for past support, even if it was not as much as you would have liked. Suggest feature stories that highlight your library, your programs, and the Texas Reading Club. Feature stories to suggest might include any of the following:

- Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas! programs for children and families
- Kick-off parties and special events
- End of summer celebrations

- Multi-cultural programs (bilingual storytimes, programs that celebrate cultural heritage)
- Teen volunteers
- Audio book suggestions for family trips

For more information about publicity, read Marketing the Texas Reading Club, available on the Texas State Library and Archives Commission web site at www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/pubs/marketingtrc/.

Cooperation with Schools

One of the most effective methods for increasing participation in the Texas Reading Club is through partnerships with local schools. The Association for Library Services to Children, a division of the American Library Association, offers a compilation of ideas at http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alasc/initiatives/partnerships/coopacts/ALA_print_layout_1_110397_110397.cfm

Ask school librarians and teachers to encourage students to join the reading program. If possible, visit the schools and distribute information about the library. Begin planning school visits as early as possible in order to promote your summer program before the school year ends. Write a letter to the district superintendent in February. Remind the superintendent that public libraries and schools are natural allies in education. Specifically request permission to contact the schools and ask the superintendent to endorse the library's reading program.

As soon as you receive permission to do so, contact the principals or school librarians. Write to the librarian or teachers to schedule school visits in April and/or May. School visits can be brief and simple or they can be longer programs, depending on the amount of time and staff available. At a minimum, let the students know who you are, that the library is planning free summer programs and activities for them, and that you look forward to seeing them in the library. If time permits, tell a story, share some jokes, present a puppet show, sing songs, or lead a simple craft related to the Texas Reading Club theme. Leave bookmarks or flyers for the students to take home and leave a poster at the school with the dates of your program. The school librarian may be very happy to display the poster in the library.

Ask teachers, especially kindergarten through second grade teachers, to discuss the importance of summer reading with parents at the final parent-teacher conference. Teachers have a great deal of influence with parents and their recommendation will often encourage parents to follow through with summer reading. Keep in mind that the last parent-teacher meeting is usually held in March, so start early. Even if you only know the start and end dates for your Summer Reading Program, provide a "teaser" flyer that lets parents know how to get more information. If possible, upload a copy of your summer reading program flyer on your library's web site, making it easy for teachers to download, print, and distribute. It is easy to create a pdf file or Word document for the web.

Ask if the school will be conducting summer classes or providing summer childcare. Teachers and activity leaders are often eager to cooperate on entertaining projects that support learning. School librarians may wish to become

outreach sites for your reading club. Children attending summer school or participating in school camps or childcare become a "captive" audience for your programs.

Remember to contact private schools. Many require their students to read during the summer and the Texas Reading Club can help make that requirement more enjoyable and fulfilling. Childcare centers and preschools are also often looking for opportunities to collaborate with the library. Children can participate in the Texas Reading Club by recording titles of books that are read to them or that they read at the childcare center. Schedule group visits to the library or bring library programs to the centers. Provide outreach collections or encourage childcare providers to apply for teacher's cards.

Letter to Schools

April 12, 2009

Dear Colleague:

The Bluebonnet Public Library, in cooperation with the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, is sponsoring the 2009 Texas Reading Club this summer. The theme is Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!

Programs and activities are planned to promote reading as a leisure activity, stimulate curiosity, and encourage children to use library resources. The Texas Reading Club is self-paced and fosters reading success by asking children to record titles of books that they read or the length of the time they spend reading each day. A beautiful certificate created by renowned Texas children's book illustrator, Joy Fisher Hein, and signed by the Texas governor will be awarded to each child who attains reading goals.

Additionally, the library has scheduled an array of activities to keep children productively occupied throughout the summer. All library programs and activities are free.

I would appreciate your help in encouraging students to visit the public library this summer. At your convenience, I would like to visit your school during May to introduce your students to the Texas Reading Club. I will call next week to arrange a time. I look forward to working with you and your students.

Sincerely,

Mary Booker
Youth Librarian
Bluebonnet Public Library
1234 Book Buyer Road
Bluebonnet, TX 12345
Phone 555-1234

Suppliers for Incentives, Crafts, and Program Materials

Contact information is provided below for the suppliers specifically mentioned in this manual, as well as for suppliers that carry some of the materials required for

crafts and programs. Keep in mind that the materials recommended, or a suitable substitute, are often available locally.

Art Supplies Online
718 Washington Ave North
Minneapolis MN 55401
1-800-967-7367
www.artsuppliesonline.com

Avery Office Products
50 Pointe Drive
Brea, CA 92821
1-800-462-8379
www.avery.com

Carson-Dellosa Publishing Co.
PO Box 35665
Greensboro, NC 27425-5665
1-800-321-0943
www.carsondellosa.com

Childcraft
P.O. Box 3239
Lancaster, PA 17604
1-800-631-5652
www.childcraft.com

Demco
P.O. Box 7488
Madison, WI 53707-7488
1-800-356-1200
www.demco.com

Dick Blick Art Materials
P.O. Box 1267
Galesburg, IL 61402-1267
1-800-828-4548
www.dickblick.com

Discount School Supply
P.O. Box 7636
Spreckels, CA 93962
1-800-627-2829
www.discountschoolsupply.com

Folkmanis

219 Park Avenue
Emeryville, California 94608
510-658-7677
www.folkmanis.com

Guildcraft Arts and Crafts
100 Fire Tower Drive
Tonawanda, NY 14150-5812
1-800-345-5563
www.guildcraftinc.com

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2009 Texas Reading Club Manual

Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!

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Instructions for Downloading the Theme Song

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4. Click on the file and it will open and play.

Theme Songs

Deep in the Heart

© Sue Young 2008

Deep in the heart of Texas,
At the public library,
With every book I take a look,
To see what I can see.

From the skyscrapers of Houston,
To the Fort Worth rodeo,
I can take a trip on a sailing ship,
In the Gulf of Mexico.

I can ride across the desert,
Or explore the Alamo,
I can navigate the Lone Star state,
It's easy to participate.

Deep in the heart of Texas,
At the public library,
With every book I take a look,
To see what I can be.

I can be a cowboy (or girl),
And sleep under the stars,
Or I can race into space,
To Jupiter and Mars.
I can be a great detective,
Or strum on my guitar,
Create, invent, experiment,
I can even be the president.

En el corazón de Tejas,
A la biblioteca voy,
Leer es un placer,
Mañana y hoy.

*Translation: In the heart of Texas
I'm going to the library
Reading is a pleasure
Tomorrow and today*

Outside the sun is blazing,
It's 98 degrees,
The library is nice and cool,
And there's always something fun to read.

Deep in the heart of Texas,

At the public library,
With every book I take a look,
And best of all it's free.

AT THE LIBRARY!

(Words by Sally Meyers. Sing to the tune of "Down by the Bay.")

There is a place,
Where imaginations grow,
It is a place
I love to go!
We learn and read,
Friends call to me:
Have you ever seen an elf - reading on a shelf?
AT THE LIBRARY!

Add one of the following before the last line, "AT THE LIBRARY!" each time you repeat the stanza.

Have you ever seen a dragon - with books in a wagon?
Have you read on a chair - next to a bear?
Have you tickled a whale with a book on its tail?
Have you giggled with a Cat? - A Cat in a Hat?
Have you read about a Toy - wearing Corduroy!
Have you read about a Dog, a Hog, or a Frog?
Have you read about a Moose, kissing a goose?
Have you read about a ship, taking a trip?
Have you read about a train going down the drain?
Have you read about a pony eating baloney?
Have you read about a fish, a fish in a dish?
Have you read about a bee learning to ski?
Have you read about a bear in long underwear?
Have you read about a rattlesnake with a bellyache?
Have you ever seen a Jackalope, chewing on some cantaloupe?
Have you read about a longhorn, juggling ears of corn?
Have you seen an armadillo, reading on a pillow?
Have you read about a roadrunner - ?????? (*pause*)
Have you ever been at story time - looking for a rhyme?
AT THE LIBRARY!!!!!!!

Puppet Plays

Pete and the Long Summer

By Kay Lincycomb

Summary

Pete and his friends are excited to be out of school for the summer, but soon find themselves bored when no one wants to play the same games. A visit to their library and the summer reading program saves the day and the summer. Interest level is toddler to lower grade school.

Settings

Use the same outdoor background as suggested in the first puppet play. If you wish, draw a cardboard or paper door to add for the last scene when they leave the library.

Puppets

The animals used in this play can be substituted for those you already own, to avoid having to order more puppets. For example: Pete could be a gopher, groundhog, or a hamster; Rex could be a jackrabbit; Cindy could be any Texas animal who just likes to sing instead of howl; and Buster could be a wolf or a vulture.

Characters

- Pete Prairie Dog
- Rex Roadrunner
- Cindy Coyote
- Buster Bobcat

Props Suggestions

Notepad for Pete's drawings

Puppets: Add accessories you wish to go with the individual characters and their interests, for example:

Pete: hardhat, tool belt, etc.

Rex: stopwatch or towel around neck

Cindy: earphones, small boom box

Books for the animal to check out if you want them to hold up the books. Or you might use pictures of books, or book covers.

Outdoor western backdrop or solid color backdrop or sheet

Cardboard door to represent the library door

Scene I: On the Prairie or in a Western Town

Pete: *(Enters singing)* School's out! School's out! *(To audience)* Hi, I'm Pete, the prairie dog. I am so excited! School's out for the summer! Now, I can play all I want with all my friends. I've got such great plans for the summer. I want to sleep late, watch as many cartoons as I want, and dig all sorts of new and neat holes. I've been thinking about all kinds of cool designs and drawing them on my sketchpad. What shall I do first? *(Thinking)* Hmmmmm. I think I'll visit my friend Rex the Roadrunner and see if he wants to play. *(Walks to side of stage and knocks)* Hey Rex, can you come out to play?

Rex: *(Enters)* Hi, Pete!

Pete: Do you want to play?

Rex: Oh, yes I do! What shall we play first?

Pete: Let's dig some new and neat holes. Look at this. *(Shows him the paper)* I have this new design with three loops and four levels. And look at this one. If we dig it by the lake, we can make a water slide right into the water, and...

Rex: *(Interrupting)* Oh, I have a much better idea. Let's race! We can have a race to the big cactus and back, then we can run all the way to the mountain and then back, and then...

Pete: Rex!

Rex! We can run to the candy store in town and the first one there has to buy prickly pear taffy for the other, and then....

Pete: REX!

Rex: What?

Pete: I don't run very fast, so that doesn't sound like much fun to me. I think we could have much more fun digging new and neat holes. Here, look at this design; it has a maze and everything...

Rex: *(Looking)* Well it does look pretty cool. But Pete, I can't get around underground very well at all because I don't have any arms or claws, and it's so dark and scary underground. Let's just race a while and you'll see how much fun it is.

Pete: I'd make the holes big enough for you to stand up straight, and I'll even do the digging, and you can just follow me around till it's ready. If you'd just give it a try I know you'd like it. It would be so much fun!

Rex: I don't think so, Pete. Sorry, but I guess I'll just go running with my little brother. Maybe we can play something tomorrow. Bye! Beep! Beep! *(Exits)*

Pete: Bye Rex. *(Big sigh)* Gee, running is no fun. We could have had so much fun digging holes, if he'd just give it a try.

Cindy: *(Off stage, howling)*

Pete: *(Looks up and listens)* Hey, that must be my friend Cindy the Coyote. Cindy! Hey Cindy, I'm over here.

Cindy: *(Enters)* Hi, Pete! Are you enjoying your summer?

Pete: No, not really, Cindy.

Cindy: Oh, why ever not?

Pete: I have all these neat and wonderful new holes planned. Look at these designs - they are awesome! It's gonna be so much fun digging them! But no one wants to do it with me.

Cindy: That's awful.

Pete: Say, Cindy, you always like to hang out with me in my den, so you must like dirt and holes. Look here, look at my plans. Look at this one with the loops, and this one has a little hidden room.

Cindy: *(Looks at paper)* They seem very nice, Pete. And they would be fun to play in once they are built, but....

Pete: You like them, don't you?? Do you want to help me dig 'em? Do ya, do ya, do ya???

Cindy: Well, Pete, Coyotes don't actually like digging their own dens. We'd much prefer just finding a den already built. I have a better idea. My mom has enrolled me in howling school this summer, so I can sing to the moon much better. Listen. *(Clears throat)* Owwwwwwwwwwwwww!!!

Pete: *(Shakes head)* Oh that was very...ah...very...ah...loud.

Cindy: Why, thank you, Pete. So I was thinking, once you built your holes and tunnels, we could hang out inside one, and practice singing together.

Pete: I'm a prairie dog, Cindy, so I can't really howl. I can bark a little, wanna hear? *(Barks softly)*

Cindy: You do need a lot of practice. Well, call me when you're finished, okay? *(Exits)*

Pete: Okay! Bye, Cindy. Man, this summer is gonna be so boring. No one wants to play with me; they all want to do a bunch of stupid stuff that's no fun. This is going to be the longest summer EVER! I'm already ready to go back to school. *(Sighs and puts head down)*

Buster: *(Enters very quietly, looks at Pete, and taps him)*

Pete: *(Looks up and sees Buster Bobcat)* Who are you?

Buster: I'm Buster the Bobcat.

Pete: *(Screams)* Ahhhhhh! A Bobcat! Please don't eat me, please don't eat me!

Buster: I'm not going to eat you, silly prairie dog. What's your name?

Pete: (*Stammering*) I... I...I'm Pete, the prairie dog. Are you sure you won't eat me?

Buster: Yes, I'm sure that I won't eat you. I just had lunch at McDonalds, and I much prefer Happy Meals. I'd rather play with you than eat you.

Pete: I'm so glad!

Buster: What's the matter? You look so sad.

Pete: Well, it's summer, and we're out of school. I've been looking forward to having fun with my friends digging these neat new holes I designed, but none of my friends want to play with me. They all want to do stupid stuff.

Buster: So they won't do stuff you like.

Pete: Right!

Buster: And you won't do stuff they like.

Pete: I guess not.

Buster: They'd rather do stuff they like.

Pete: Yes!

Buster: And they must think that the stuff you like is stupid, at least to them.

Pete: I suppose so.

Buster: So no one will play what the other one wants, so everyone is bored and lonely.

Pete: I never thought of it that way.

Buster: What can anyone do?

Pete: I suppose if I would play what they wanted for a little while, and then maybe they would play what I want a little while.

Buster: That's a great idea.

Pete: I'll go talk to them.

Buster: You know, there is something fun that everyone could do.

Pete: What is it?

Buster: Now that summer is here, the library is starting their Summer Reading Program. You can read and win prizes and a certificate; and they have all sort of fun activities planned that everyone can enjoy.

Pete: Wow! Like what?

(Substitute activities that your library is having)

Buster: There'll be a magician, and a storyteller; and someone who plays drums, and each week there will be a movie day with popcorn.

Pete: Oh, boy! That sounds like so much fun. Let's go tell all my friends about it. And I want them to meet you; you're a really neat guy, especially since you're not going to eat us.

Buster: (*chuckles*) Great, let's go. And I know a great book at the library. It's called *Taking Turns*; I'll read to you and your friends when we get there.

(*Both exit*)

Scene II. Coming out of the Library

(*Enter Cindy and Rex*)

Cindy: I'm so glad Pete and Buster told us about the Summer Reading Program. I can't wait to go to all the cool programs and movies they're going to have.

Rex: Did you see all those cool prizes they're giving away for reading?

Cindy: Yes, and I found so many books that I want to read. First I'm going to read *Henry's Song* and then *Goodnight, Moon*.

Rex: I checked out *The Tortoise and the Jackrabbit* and *The Big Race*. I'm going home right now to start reading. Beep! Beep! *Exits very quickly.*

Cindy: Goodbye, Rex.

(*Buster enters*)

Cindy: Thanks for telling us about the Summer Reading Program, Buster. I enjoyed the book you read to everyone, and I'm glad you didn't eat us. I'm going home right now, so I can read an hour before my howling lesson. Listen: Owwwwwww!!!

Buster: My, Cindy that was, uh, loud!

Cindy: Why, thank you, Buster! Goodbye. (*Exits*)

Buster: Goodbye, Cindy!

Pete: (*Enters*) That book you read on taking turns was a hit. I think we can all play together just fine now, and everyone will be able play their favorite game for a while, if they take turns. And we can all enjoy the many activities at the library together. You saved the summer, Buster.

Buster: Thanks, Pete! But it was the Summer Reading Program that did that. I just told you about it. Did you find something good to read?

Pete: Yes, I'm going to read *Digging for Dinosaurs* and *Holes* by Louis Sachar

Buster: I think I may try *Where's My Tail*.

Pete: This is going to be the best summer ever. Let's go dig some holes, Buster:

(*Both exit*)

Leona Lou and the Case of the Missing Prizes

By Kay Lincycomb

Summary

Leona Lou is the best cowgirl at Tumbleweed Gulch Elementary School. She can outrun, outfight, outswim, outtalk, and outread any kid in Texas. When she finds the summer reading program prizes have been stolen from the public library by Sidewinder Sam, she vows to rescue the prizes and find out why Sam wants to sabotage the reading program. Interest level is older preschool to upper grade school.

Settings

A western setting can be as simple or elaborate as you wish. A solid color sheet can be turned into a western setting by adding props such as tumbleweeds or cactus; background animals; cardboard fences, rope, anything with a western look. When doing Internet subject searches for puppet backdrops, you can find patterns for western towns available.

There are also school puppet backdrop kits available that could be adapted to reflect a library setting, or you can use the same solid color as the outdoor scene and change the props to reflect an indoor library setting such as: bookshelves drawn on cardboard, a small toy or cardboard desk, cardboard books, book covers, or even placing a few actual books on the side of the stage. Draw an open window that Sam has escaped from. A square of a different color will do; add a frilly cloth for a curtain if you wish.

Puppets

Give your puppets a western look by adding bandanas, cowboy hats, and other western attire. Cowboy and Cowgirl puppets, and western clothing for puppets are available from many puppet manufacturers, or look for toddler clothes to fit larger puppets.

Characters

(Characters can be people puppets or used with animals puppets)

- The play can be performed with 2 people.
- Leona Lou – western dress
- Sidewinder Sam - dressed in black, with a red bandana or however you wish. *(Change his description in the script to reflect a change in dress)*
- Miss Pages – The town librarian.
- *(Optional)* Puppet or stick horse

Props

Backdrop for scene 1 and 3 (Prairie, or Western town)

Backdrop for library

Rope to tie up Sam
Summer Reading Certificate
Western attire for Leona and Sidewinder

Backgrounds

Prairie or western town
Library

Scene 1: Prairie or western town background

(Enters Leona Lou)

Leona: *(To audience)* Howdy, ya'll! My name is Leona Lou. I am the toughest cowgirl in Tumbleweed Gulch Elementary School. I can outrun, outfight, outswim, outtalk, and outread any kid in Texas.

Voice: *(From off stage)* Outread? Whatcha mean?

Leona: *(Looks around)* Who said that?

Sam: *(Enters)* I did.

Leona: Who are ya?

Sam: I'm new in town. Just rode in this here morning. Name's Sidewinder Sam.

Leona: How come you're named after a snake?

Sam: Don't know. Guess my Ma liked snakes. Who are you?

Leona: I'm Leona Lou. I'm the toughest cowgirl in Tumbleweed Gulch Elementary School. I can outrun, outfight, outswim, outtalk, and outread any kid in Texas.

Sam: Whatcha mean outread everyone? How ya do that? Ya can't win a race like when you show whose tha fastest. How ya gonna show ya the best reader?

Leona: Simple. Now that school is out, the Tumbleweed Gulch Library will start their summer reading program like they do every summer. I'm gonna read so fast and so much that I'll be the first critter to get ma Reading Certificate and the first to get all the prizes they give out.

Sam: Prizes! What prizes?

Leona: Prizes fer reading. Ya get really cool prizes for just reading and a certificate too. The more ya read, the more prizes ya get.

Sam: So to get them thar' prizes at the Library, ya got ta read?

Leona: Yep! That's all there is to it. Ya just gotta read.

Sam: Can ya get them thar' prizes any other way?

Leona: Nope, ya don't have to do anything else ta get them but read. That's all there is to it. Great, huh?

Sam: *(In a sarcastic tone)* Oh ya! Great! Really great!

Leona: Well, I'm off to check out the highest stack of books that anyone ever carried out of that thar' library.

Sam: Yeah, sure.

Leona: See ya at the library. *(Exits)*

Sam: See ya. *(To the audience)* Just think, all them prizes, just sitting thar', and nobody can get them except by reading. Well, they don't call me Sidewinder Sam for nothing. I'm the meanest, orneriest kid in Texas. An' I'm dishonest too. They've kicked me out of every elementary school I've been to. I'm gonna steal all them there prizes just for me. Hahahah. *(Evil laugh, then exits)*

Scene 2: Library

Leona: *(Enters library)* Miss Pages! It's Leona Lou.

Miss Pages: *(Enters room)* Oh dear! Oh dear!

Leona: Why, whatever is the matter, Miss Pages?

Miss Pages: Oh, Leona Lou, it's just awful. The prizes for the summer reading club have been stolen!

Leona: Stolen? What happened?

Miss Pages: Well, I was in the back room sorting the prizes which had just arrived in the mail. I decided to make myself a cup of tea, and when I returned, the window was opened and the prizes were gone.

Leona: Oh, that's awful! What could have happened to 'em?

Miss Pages: I ran to look out the window and I saw a cowboy, dressed in black with a red bandana, riding into sunset carrying a big sack slung over his shoulder. There was no one else around. It must have been him.

Leona: Well, I know that thar' cowboy, I met him earlier today. His name is Sidewinder Sam. How could he do such a terrible thing?

Miss Pages: The library is full of people needing my help. I just can't close the library to go look for him. But if I don't there will be no prizes to give the children for the summer reading club. Why, he even took the certificates!

Leona: Don't you worry, Miss Pages. I will find Sidewinder Sam and get those prizes back for the summer reading club.

Miss Pages: Can you really do that, Leona Lou?

Leona: Of course I can. I am the toughest cowgirl in Tumbleweed Gulch Elementary School. I can outrun, outfight, outswim, outtalk, and outread any kid in Texas. I will not return without those prizes!

Miss Pages: Oh, thank you so much, Leona Lou! Be careful. *(Exits)*

Leona: I'll call my trusted steed and start huntin' for Sidewinder Sam right away! *(Shouting)* Dandelion!

(From offstage the sound of a horse neighing)

Leona: I'll find Sidewinder Sam and return them thar' stolen prizes, no matter what it takes! *(Exits)*.

Optional: Play Rossini's "William Tell Overture," the theme song from Lone Ranger television show, and have Leona ride across the stage slowly on a horse puppet or stick horse. Or, play other classic cowboy chase music.)

Scene 3: Prairie

(From offstage the sound of a horse neighing)

Leona: *(From offstage)* Whoa, Dandelion, whoa! *(More neighing)*

Leona: *(enters and talks to audience)* I've looked high and low for that Sidewinder Sam. No one has seen him in a coon's age. I wonder if he could be hiding out in that thar' cave. *(Points)*

Leona: *(Shouting)* Sidewinder Sam!

Sam: *(From off stage)* I ain't here!

Leona: *(Looks at audience, and then back at cave)* Come out of there, Sam, I know you're there!

Sam: *(From off stage)* I said, I ain't here!

Leona: I'm gonna come in and drag you out, Sam.

Sam: Oh all right! *(Enters)* Okay, whatcha want?

Leona: I have come to take back the prizes you stole from the library.

Sam: They are all my prizes now. *(Evil laugh)* Ya'll will never get 'em back.

Leona: We'll see about that!

(The two puppets struggle together as if in a fight, for a moment, then they both fall down off the stage. (Scuffling noise as if fighting heard from off stage. (Leona comes back up holding the end of a rope. Sam comes back up tied up with a rope)

Leona: Okay, Sam, I have ya now. Are the prizes in the cave?

Sam: Yea, they are. But ya can't have 'em back.

Leona: Why would ya want to take all them prizes for yerself?

Sam: Because I'll never get any, if I don't steal 'em. I can't read.

Leona: You can't read! Well, why didn't you say so? I'll teach ya to read, Sam, and then you can win your own prizes.

Sam: You'd do that fer me?

Leona: Sure. I'm not only the best reader in Texas, I'm the best reading tutor too. I help all the little kids in ma school. We'll have you reading in no time. Just help me carry all these prizes back to Miss Pages, and we'll get started right away. *(Exits)*

Sam: *(Still tied up, he looks off stage, then to audience, then back off stage)* Hey! Wait! *(Looks back at audience and then offstage again)* Leona Lou! Ya forgot something! *(Pauses a second)* Hey! Come back and untie me! Leona! Wait! *(Exits stage as if he is hopping)*

Scene 4: Library

(Miss Pages and Sam Enter)

Miss Pages: *(Holding a reading certificate with Sam's name on it)* Sam, I am very proud to present you with your first Summer Reading Club Certificate. Well done!

Sam: Thank you, Miss Pages.

Miss Pages: Well, back to work. The library is very busy you know. *(Exits)*

Leona: *(Enters)* Well, Sam, ya did it!

Sam: Thanks to you, Leona, I can finally read and get ma own prizes. I'll never steal again.

Leona: Twern't nuttin', Sam. Come on, let's see who can check out the biggest stack of books. I'll bet it'll be me!

Sam: Let's go, Leona, lets go! *(To audience)* I just love ta read!

(Both exit)

Celebrations Programs Chapter

By Kim Lehman

Texas Libraries, Texas People, Texas Cultures

A multicultural program based on the cultures of the people living in Texas.

Books to Share

Houses and Homes by Ann Morris.

Tale of Rabbit and Coyote by Tony Johnston.

The Six Fools collected by Zora Neale Hurston and adapted by Joyce Carol Thomas.

This is the Way We Eat Our Lunch by Edith Baer.

Two of Everything by Lily Toy Hong.

Whoever You Are by Mem Fox.

Nametag

Cut out the shape of Texas using a die-cut, using the outline map on the Texas A & M web site <http://copyservices.tamu.edu/clipart/clip01/dac10004.gif>, or the [pattern](#) in this program.

Rhymes and Poetry

My Aunt Came Back from the County Fair

(Traditional. Adapted by Kim Lehman.)

My aunt came back from the county fair,
And brought with her a rocking chair.

My aunt came back from Mexico,
And brought with her dancers folklórico.

My aunt came back from Germany,
And brought with her a music box key.

My aunt came back from the vast Great Plains,
And brought with her horses and their manes.

My aunt came back from old Japan,
And brought with her a lovely fan.

(Slap your thighs to make a rhythm as you say the rhyme. Have the children join in.)

Juba This and Juba That

(Traditional)

Juba this and juba that,
Juba caught a yellow cat,
Juba up and juba down,
Juba runnin' all around.

Songs

Clapping Land

(Traditional song from Scandinavia. Let the children do the movements as you sing. Add other movements such as jumping, laughing, stretching, sneezing... You can find a version of this song on *Hap Palmer's Folk Song Carnival* and you may listen and/or download the song at *Songs for Teaching* at <http://songsforteaching.com/store/product.php?productid=4457&cat=0&page=1>.)

I traveled over land and sea, I met a man and old was he.
I said to him "Where do you live?" and this is what he told me.
"Come with me to Clapping Land, Clapping Land, Clapping Land.
If you want to live with me, come with me to Clapping Land."

Michael Finnigan

(Traditional song from Ireland. You can listen to this song at www.iTunes.com.)

There was a boy called Michael Finnigan,
He grew whiskers on his chin-igan.
The wind came out and blew them in again.
Poor old Michael Finnigan, begin again.

There was an old man named Michael Finnigan,
Who went off fishing with a pinnigan.
He caught a fish, but it fell in again.
Poor old Michael Finnigan.

There was an old man named Michael Finnigan,
Who caught a cold and couldn't get well again.
Then he died, and had to begin again.
Poor old Michael Finnigan.

Mushi, Mushi (Telephone Song)

(Traditional song from Japan. Sing to the tune of "London Bridges." "Mushi" means "hello." "Ah no ne" is nonsense, similar to "uh-huh. As you sing this song, hold your hand to your ear as if you are talking on the telephone.)

Mushi, mushi

Ah no ne,

Ah no ne

Ah no ne,

Mushi Mushi a no ne

Ah so des ka!

My Hat

(Traditional German Song. Make the following actions as you sing the words. Repeat the song and leave a word out but continue to do the movements until almost the entire song is actions only. Hat - both hands on head. Three - hold three fingers up. Corners - make a triangle shape with both arms.)

My hat, it has three corners,
Three corners has my hat
And had it not three corners,
It would not be my hat.

In German:

Mein Hut, der hat drei Ecken,
Drei Ecken hat mein Hut.
Und hätt' er nicht drei Ecken,
So wär's auch nicht mein Hut.

Princess Pat

(Traditional. Sing each line and make the motions, and let the children repeat it. Princess Patricia of Cannaught was the daughter of a Governor General of Canada 1911-1914 and a grand-daughter of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. It is the song of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. The Regimental Camp Colour is known by the Princess Pat's as "The Ric-a-dam-doo." To see a version of the song with actions go to www.youtube.com/watch?v=UQ6G-kUHUqE.)

The Princess Pat, Lives in a tree. She sailed across, The seven seas.	<i>(Egyptian pose)</i> <i>(make the motion for a tree trunk)</i> <i>(wave motion in front of body with one hand)</i> <i>(make a number 7 with your finger, then make a "C" with one hand)</i>
She sailed across, The channel two.	<i>(wave motion)</i> <i>(two hands tracing a channel, then number 2 on one hand)</i>
And took with them, A rick-a-bamboo!	<i>(throw a sack over your shoulder)</i> <i>(trace a wavy figure in front of you going down, bend knees as you go)</i>

(Chorus)

A rick-a-bamboo,	<i>(trace a wavy figure in front of you going down, bend knees as you go)</i>
Now what is that?	<i>(shrug shoulders, hold out hands)</i>
It's something made,	<i>(tap one fist on top of the other)</i>
For the Princess Pat.	<i>(Egyptian pose)</i>
It's red and gold,	<i>(do a backward swimming motion)</i>
And purple too.	<i>(flip hands as if you were saying "Oh my gosh!")</i>
That's why it's called,	<i>(cup hands in front of mouth, shout)</i>
A rick-a-bamboo!	<i>(same as before)</i>
Now Captain Dan	<i>(salute)</i>
And his loyal crew.	<i>(salute several times)</i>
They sailed across,	<i>(wave action)</i>
The channel two.	<i>(same as before)</i>
But their ship sank,	<i>(clap hands)</i>
And yours will too.	<i>(point to others and the number 2 on one hand)</i>
If you forget,	<i>(point to head)</i>
A rick-a-bamboo!	<i>(same as before)</i>

(Chorus)

Reader's Theater

Read "One-Eye! Two-Eyes! Three-Eyes!: A Very Grimm Fairy Tale" by Aaron Shepard, a German folktale about being different, skillfully written for nine readers. The script is about 12 minutes in length and is on *Author Online! Aaron Shepard's Home Page* at www.aaronshp.com./rt/RTE40.html.

Read "Thi Lien's Page: A Vietnamese Folk Tale for Reader's Theatre" about a boy who outwits a money collector. The script is on the *Institute of Texan Cultures* web site at www.texancultures.utsa.edu/education/crossroads/handouts/ThiLien_ReadersTheatre.pdf.

Stories

Why Opossum is Gray: A Story from Mexico by Palazzo-Craig.

Crafts

Dragon Stick Puppet

Materials

- Red paper
- Craft sticks
- Cardstock
- Tape
- Glue
- Crayons or markers (optional)

Directions

In advance, cut pieces of red paper in half. Go to *Microsoft Office Online* at <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/clipart/default.aspx> and search "dragon." Download one of the many dragonheads, and copy it to cardstock for a pattern. Alternatively, let the children color on the dragon's face with crayons or markers. Give each child a strip of red paper, two craft sticks, and one dragonhead. To make this Asian puppet, the children fold strips of red paper accordion style, or tape two together to make it longer. They tape a craft stick to each end of the red paper, and glue a dragonhead over one of the craft sticks.



Fortune Cookies (Asian)

Materials

- Play dough
- Rolling pins
- Plastic drinking glasses
- Paper
- Pens

Directions

Flatten play dough and cut a circle with a glass. Write a fortune on a slip of paper and place it on the circle of dough. Fold the circle in half, then in half again. Let it dry.

Shekeres (pronounced SHAY-ker-rays)

This African percussive instrument is recommended for smaller groups of elementary age children. For directions, visit *Family Fun.com* at <http://jas.familyfun.go.com/arts-and-crafts?page=CraftDisplay&craftid=10690>.

Tin Designs (Mexico)

Materials

- Aluminum foil
- Foam board
- Tape
- Pencil or wooden skewer

Directions

Lay a small piece of aluminum foil over a foam board and tape them together. With a sharp pencil, punch holes in the foil to make a pattern or a picture. Carefully remove from the foam board. Hang the tin design in a window to see the pattern. See the [pattern](#) at the end of this program.



Games and Activities

Hello!

On cardstock write different "hello" in various languages. On the back of each card write the name of the country, or Xerox a world map on the back of each card and color in the countries where that language is spoken. Supply the children with paper and pencils to write their own "hello" dictionary. To find a list of world greeting go www.adl.org/education/kids_hello.asp. For maps go to <http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/site/english/maps/reference/outlineworld/world02>.

Chopstick Pick-Up

Let the children pick up as many objects as they can in one minute using chopsticks. In advance, gather a variety of objects for them to pick up, and write a point value on each. The harder the items are to pick up, the higher the point value. Or, if you prefer not to count points, have the children move as many objects as possible in one minute into a container placed on a table, and count the number of objects. Begin by instructing the children on how to use chopsticks and letting them practice. Instructions are available on *K. Tok's Home Page* at http://east.portland.ne.jp/~k_tok/life01.htm.

Take Home Word Games

Print the activity sheets on the *Institute of Texan Cultures* at www.texancultures.utsa.edu/education/crossroads/Crossroads_of_Culture.htm. Let children do the word games in the library or take them home.

We Are the World

Post a map of the world. Have families put a sticker dot on the country from which their ancestors came. A downloadable world map is available at *Discover Canada Through National Maps and Facts* at <http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/site/english/maps/reference/outlineworld/world02>.

Books to Display or Booktalk

We Are a Rainbow by Nancy Maria Grande Tabor.

What's the Hurry, Fox?: And Other Animal Stories collected by Zora Neale Hurston and adapted by Joyce Carol Thomas.

Children of the Dragon: Selected Stories from Vietnam by Sherry Garland.

Crossing Bok Chitto: A Choctaw Tale of Friendship and Freedom by Tim Tingle.

Bulletin Boards

Travel Around the World in Texas

For this interactive bulletin board, post pictures of traditional clothing from various cultures, or pictures of dolls dressed in traditional clothing. See [patterns \(there are four pages of patterns\)](#) at the end of this program. Only attach the picture at the top, to create a flap. Attach another sheet of paper underneath the flap with the name of the country in which the clothing is worn. Add the directions, "Can you guess what country these traditional clothes are from? Lift the flap to find out." Go to any clip art program and search for clothing for images to include, or copy images from books in your library.

Displays

Invite cultural organizations, staff members, or world travelers to bring items to display such as hats, instruments, fabric, dolls or photos.

Incentives

Order metal globe key chains from *Oriental Trading Company* at www.orientaltrading.com.

Refreshments

Either purchase foods, have community members donate items or host a cooking class and let children and teens prepare the treats. Some ideas include the Czech kolaches recipe at

www.angelfire.com/tx5/texaszech/kolaches/Kolache%20recipe.htm;

the fortune cookie recipe at

www.parentinghumor.com/activityecenter/cookingkids/fortunecookies.htm;

the Mexican cookies at

www.parentinghumor.com/activityecenter/cookingkids/mexicancookies.htm; and nori rolls at www.epicurious.com/recipes/food/views/102219.

Guest Speakers

Contact cultural groups or individual members of your community to come and share traditional clothing, language, songs, stories and dances. Invite a storyteller to come and tell tales from around the world.

Tex-Kits

Order educational Tex-Kits from the *Institute of Texan Cultures* at www.texancultures.utsa.edu/PDF/Tex-KitBrochure6_6_05.pdf. If your library is more than 100 miles from San Antonio, you can have an interactive presentation through video conferencing. There is a fee. For more information on programs, go to www.texancultures.com/education/videoprogram.htm.

Audio Recordings

Asian Dreamland by Putmayo.

"Hello to All the Children of the World" on *Wee Sing Around the World* by Wee Sing.

"Lila Downs" on *Latin Playground* by Putumayo.

"Paddy on the Railroad/Dance Your Way to Texas" on *All Wound Up! - A Family Music Party* by Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer with Brave Combo.

"Chocolate" on *Movimiento Popular* by Grupo Fantasma.

Web Sites

Culture and Kids

www.exploreandmore.org/world/default.htm

Excellent, easy to use web site to learn about other countries around the world.

Professional Resources

Hands-on Latin America: Art Activities for All Ages by Yvonne Merrill.

Animated Tales of the World

www.multiculturalkids.com/shop/product.php?productid=2167&cat=227&page=1.

These fifteen-minute videos offer stories from over 40 countries.

Anti-Defamation League

www.adl.org/education/kids_hello.asp

This site has a good chart of greetings from other languages.

Author Online! Aaron Shepherd's Home Page

www.aaronshep.com

A wealth of stories and resources make this site a storyteller's dream.

Discover Canada Through National Maps and Facts

<http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/site/english/maps/reference/outlineworld/world02>

This site has a great downloadable world map.

Epicurious

www.epicurious.com

This site has a collection of international recipes, searchable by countries.

Family Fun

<http://familyfun.go.com/>

This is a great resource for games, activities and art projects for parents and teachers.

iTunes

www.iTunes.com

This is a place to find downloadable music.

Institute of Texas Cultures

www.texancultures.utsa.edu/

This site has extensive resource for different cultures in Texas.

K. Tok's Home Page

http://east.portland.ne.jp/~k_tok/index.htm

This personal site has great instructions for using chopsticks.

Mama Lisa's World

www.mamalisa.com/world/

Learn songs and rhymes from around the world.

Microsoft Office Online

<http://office.microsoft.com>

This is a great place to go for clip art to make the flannel boards and displays.

2009 Texas Reading Club Manual

Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!

Published by the Library Development Division of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Austin, Texas 2009.

Multicultural, Cross-cultural & Intercultural Games & Activities

<http://wilderdom.com/games/MulticulturalExperientialActivities.html>

Here you will find many different games and activities to develop multicultural awareness. Most of the activities are for elementary and older.

Songs for Teaching

<http://songsforteaching.com>

This site offers a wealth of musical resources especially for teacher, parents and librarians.

Parenting Humor

www.parentinghumor.com

This valuable resource for parents and teachers including activities, cooking, art, and literature for children and families.

The World Factbook

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html>

Facts of all kinds from countries around the world.

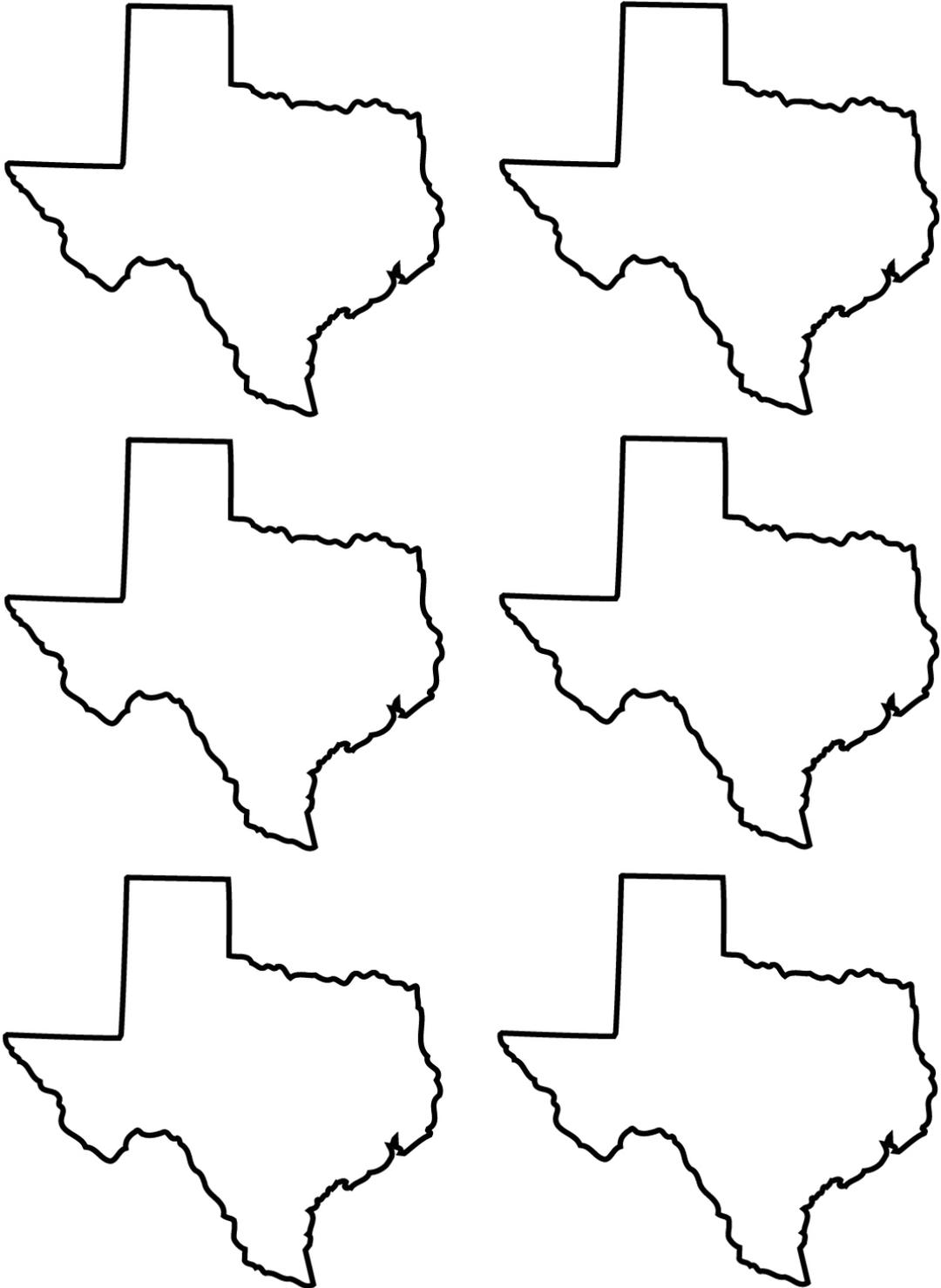
YouTube

www.youtube.com

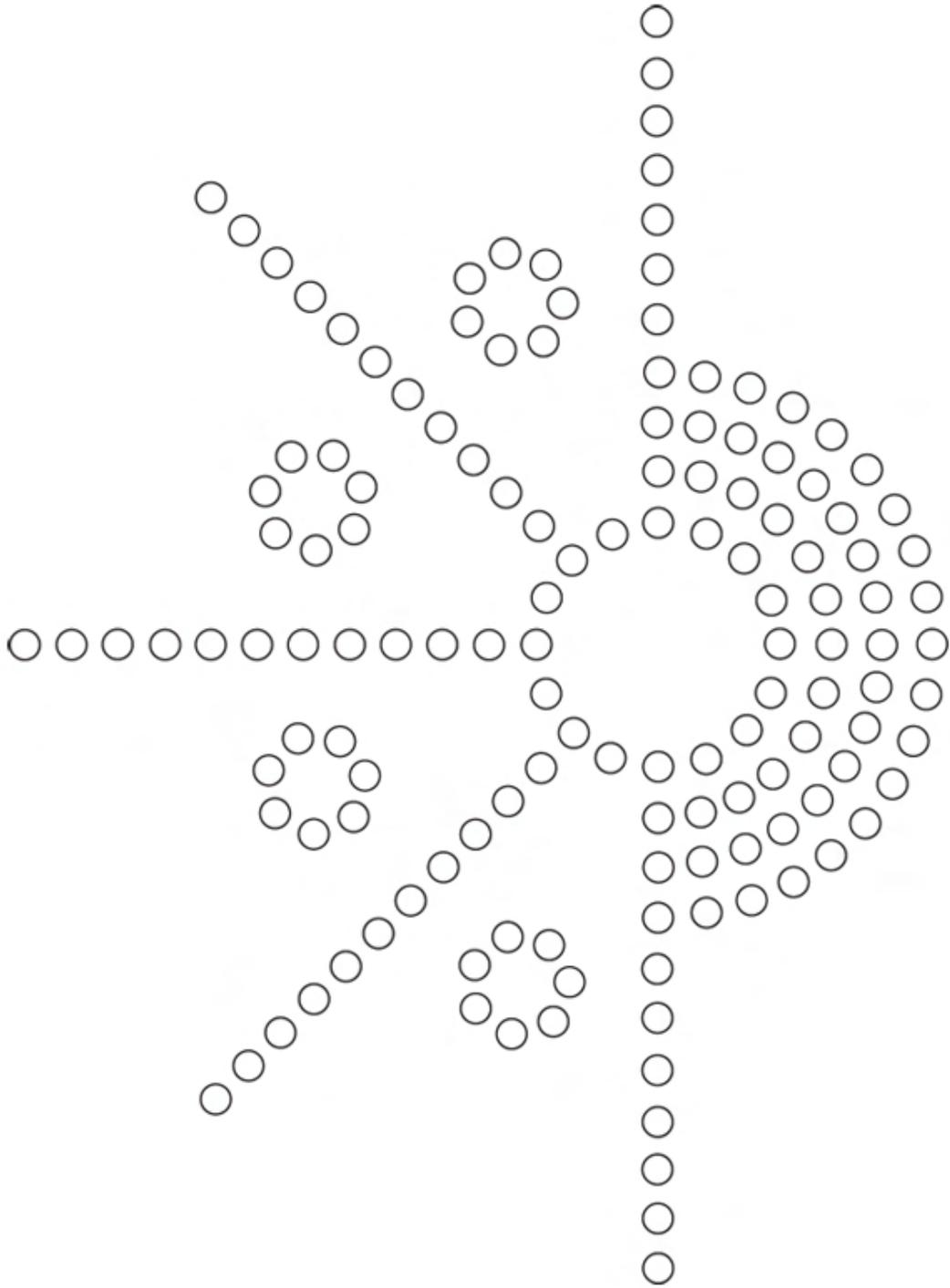
This site provides videos from people all around the world. Warning: Videos may not be PG.

Craft Materials

Texas Nametags



Tin Designs



Travel Around the World in Texas – Traditional Clothing from Various Cultures (Pattern 1 of 4)



Afghan



Argentine



Bolivian



Chinese

Travel Around the World in Texas – Traditional Clothing from Various Cultures (Pattern 2 of 4)



Czech



Danish



Eskimo



French

Travel Around the World in Texas – Traditional Clothing from Various Cultures (Pattern 3 of 4)



German



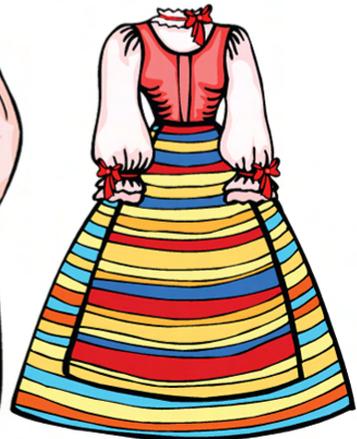
Greek



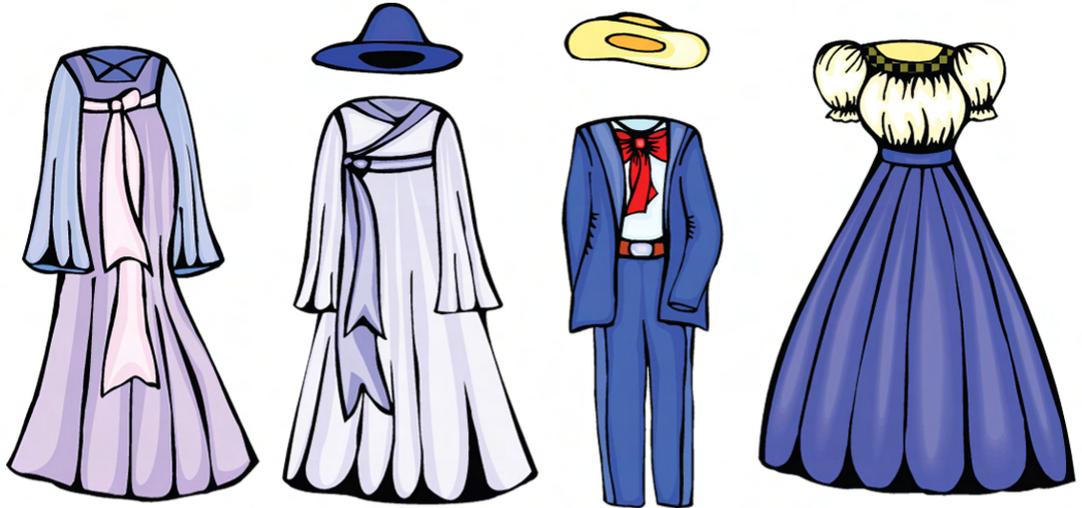
Indian



Irish



Travel Around the World in Texas – Traditional Clothing from Various Cultures (Pattern 4 of 4)



Korean

Mexican



Russian

Vietnamese

Texas Reads! A Celebration of Texas Authors, Books, and Libraries

Books to Share

Incredible Me! by Kathi Appelt.

Jingle Dancer by Cynthia Leight Smith.

Little Bunny Kung Fu by Regan Johnson.

Way Down Deep in the Deep Blue Sea by Jan Peck.

When Turtle Grew Feathers: A Tale from the Choctaw Nation by Tim Tingle.

Nametag

Give the children a book-shaped nametag made with a die-cut, copied from a clip art site such as *School Clip Art* at www.school-clip-art.com/book_clipart.shtml, or the [pattern](#) at the end of this program.

Rhymes and Poetry

Librarians

One librarian, two librarians,
Three librarians you see.
Four librarians, five librarians,
Live in Texas like me!

Bunny

Here is a bunny with ears so funny,	<i>(bend two fingers of one hand over on thumb)</i>
And here is her hole in the ground.	<i>(make a hole with other fist)</i>
When a noise she hears, she pricks up her ears,	<i>(extend index and tall fingers of first fist; then close them)</i>
And hops into her hole in the ground.	<i>(jump fingers into hole in other fist)</i>

Songs

Baby Shark

This hilarious, easy-to-sing action song is sure to be a hit. To learn the song, go to *YouTube* at www.youtube.com/watch?v=5V5_yUZxRc.

Bluebonnet Song

(Traditional. [Listen to the song](#) performed by Kim Lehman.)

Bluebonnets, bluebonnets, with your coats so blue,
Your white eyes are shining through the silvery dew.
We know you're a dolly offered for the rain.
We know you'll return again to Texas in the spring.

Do You Know the Way to Plant

(This traditional French game song was adapted by Kim Lehman. Repeat the song, substituting different body parts, such as elbow, foot, nose, toes, etc. The French version and a simple melody can be heard on the *Kiddiddles* web site at <http://kididdles.com/mouseum/s113.html>. The song is also available on the recording *Everything Grows* by Raffi.)

Do you know the way to write?
Write the pages just as we do.
Do you know the way to write?
See if you can do it too.

You can write it with your finger.
Write the pages just as we do.
You can write it with your finger
See if you can do it too.

Little Bunny Foo Foo

(Words and music to this well-loved song can be found on Bus Songs.com at www.bussongs.com/songs/little_bunny_foo_foo_short.php.)

(Traditional. Adapted by Kim Lehman. Sing to the tune of "John Brown's Body." For each successive verse, leave out a word or phrase but continue with the movements.)

Little Bunny Foo Foo *(make rabbit ears with fingers)*
Had a fly upon his nose. *(put pointer fingers on nose, crossing hands, palms toward body and move fingers in flapping motion)*

Repeat two more times.

And he flipped it *(make flipping motion)*
And it flew away. *(flap arms)*

Texas

(Traditional. Adapted by Kim Lehman. Sing to the tune of Bingo. Make felt letters to go with the song. For another verse, substitute the words, "I have a friend with long pink ears and Bunny is her name-o. B-U-N-N-Y. Or, substitute the name of your library. "There is a place I like to go and sing, and learn, and read-o. _____ Library.")

We love the state that we call home,
And Texas is its name-o.

T-E-X-A-S, T-E-X-A-S, T-E-X-A-S,
And Texas is its name-o.

It has one star upon its flag,
And Texas is its name-o.
T-E-X-A-S, T-E-X-A-S, T-E-X-A-S,
And Texas is its name-o.

Reader's Theater

The Legend of Lightning Larry by Aaron Shepard is available on *Author Online! Aaron Shepard's Home Page* at <http://www.aaronshp.com/rt/RTE01.html>. Larry is a cowboy with a huge smile, a gun that shoots bolts of light, and a hankering for lemonade who takes on Evil-Eye McNeevil's outlaw gang. This script is written for 22 readers ages 7 - 12. It runs about 8 minutes.

Three Sideways Stories From Wayside School by Louis Sachar, adapted by Aaron Shepard, is on *Author Online! Aaron Shepard's Home Page* at <http://www.aaronshp.com/rt/RTE32.html>. Some say the teachers and students at Wayside School are strange and silly—and so will you! This script is for 9 readers ages 8 - 12. It runs about 12 minutes.

Puppet Shows

Use dialog and action from *Faded Love* by John Erickson, *Hank the Cowdog* book number five.

Perform *The Case of the Missing Cat* from *Hanks Stage Plays and Musical Comedies* at www.hankthecowdog.com/stage/index.htm#MissingCat.

Puppet Show: Betty Bunny

(By Kim Lehman.)

Characters: Mother Bunny, Benny Bunny, carrot, pictures of food, brown bag

Narrator: Benny bunny was a bouncy baby boy. The only thing he wanted to eat was carrots.

Benny: I LOVE carrots.

Mother: I know you do dear, but if you keep eating carrots and nothing else, you are going to turn into a carrot. Here eat some oatmeal for breakfast.

Benny: I want a carrot. *(Eats a carrot)*

Mother: How about an amazing apple for snack time?

Benny: I want a carrot. *(Eats a carrot)*

Mother: How about some scrumptious soup and a lettuce leaf sandwich for lunch?

Benny: I want a carrot. *(Eats a carrot)*

Mother: How about some yummy cheese and crackers?

Benny: I want a carrot. *(Eats a carrot)*

Mother: *(Benny shakes his head "no: after each food.)* How about an amazing avocado, a terrific tomato, a positively perfect potato?

Benny: All I'm going to eat is carrots, carrots, and more carrots. *(Eats carrots)*

Mother: You are going to turn into a carrot if that is all you eat.

Benny: How about some carrot juice before bedtime?

Mother: What am I going to do with you?

(They kiss. Put Benny in a brown bag for a rabbit hole.)

Mother: Rise and shine, Benny!

(Benny comes out as a carrot.)

Benny Carrot: Boy, am I feeling bright and crispy today.

Mother: I should say you are!

Stories

Tell *Tortoise and the Hare* by Aesop. This story can be found in books with the same title by Mark White or by Janet Stevens.

Crafts

Bookmarks

Materials

- Card stock
- Markers and things to decorate with

Directions

Cut card stock into the size you want to use for the bookmark. Provide markers, crayons, watercolors, pencils, ribbon, tissue paper, yarn, confetti, and paper shapes. Guide the children's creativity by suggesting topics such as your favorite book or story, favorite character, favorite author, celebrate the library, or write a poem.

Bunny Ear Headbands

Materials

- Cardstock (or old posters, recycled paper bags, or construction paper)
- Pink paper
- Scissors
- Glue

- Stapler
- Cotton balls

Directions

In advance, cut strips of cardstock about two inches wide and eighteen inches long, and cut rabbit ears from pink construction paper. The children glue the ears onto the headbands, and glue a cotton ball on the back of the headband for the tail. Tape them to fit the children's heads.



Clay Characters

Materials

- Flour
- Water
- Salt
- Oil
- Alum
- Kool-Aid™

Directions

Mix together 2 ½ to 3 cups of flour and 2 cups boiling water with 1 package Kool-Aid™, 3 tablespoons oil, ½ cup salt, and 1 tablespoon alum, and knead. Let the

children mold the dough into favorite animals or book characters. For instructions on how to make cooked play dough, visit *Instructibles* at

www.instructables.com/id/How-to-Make-Playdough-Play-doh/.

Hank the Cow Dog Scarf

Materials

- White sheet
- Markers or stamps and inkpads
- Scissors

Directions

Cut the sheet into triangles big enough to tie around a child's neck. Let the children decorate the scarves with markers or stamps.



Make a Book

This is an easy way to have children make a book to take home. For instruction on making an accordion book go to www.ehow.com/how_2055622_inspirational-accordion-book.html. For older children learn how to make a hard covered book by going to www.mothteeth.com/bookmaking/.

My Book About Me

Materials

- Typing paper
- Stapler

Directions

Supply children with a blank book made by cutting two sheets of typing paper in half, folding the four pieces together and stapling on the fold. Read questions to inspire children with ideas for writing in their books, such as the following. "What is your name? Write about the people in your family. Write about your pets. What is your favorite color? What is your favorite story?"

Games and Activities

Book Drawing

Have people write their favorite books on bits of paper to be put in a drawing.

Dewey Decimal Round-Up

Blow up balloons. Write call numbers or book titles on each balloon. Have the children move the balloons to a specific area without using their hands.

Hank the Cowdog

Get your picture taken with Hank the Cowdog. For costume rentals, visit *Costume Specialist* at www.cospec.com/childrens_book_characters.html.

Library Book Round-Up

Cut out 50 paper books. Before the children come into the library, hide the books. Have the children hunt for the books and take them to the librarian. The librarian can be a person or a cut out figure. For older children, write call numbers on 50 paper books and let them order the books by the Dewey Decimal System. Another version of this game can be a cattle round up with 50 hidden cows.

Sign Language

Teach the signs for Texas, book, writer, library, and topic of the stories shared like rabbit, flower, contest, ocean, and school. Go to *ASLPro.com* at www.aslpro.com/ to see the signs in action.

We Love Our Library

Display containers with photos and biographies of 8 – 10 library employees. Let patrons purchase tickets at the front desk and cast their votes for their favorite library employees by placing the tickets in the containers of their choice. Funds raised can be earmarked for children's programs.

Guest Speakers

Invite a local author to visit the library and talk about their books or about the writing process. See the Professional Resources section at the end of this program for information on Texas Authors.

Books to Display or Booktalk

Hank the Cowdog by John Erickson.

Miss Lady Bird's Wildflowers: How a First Lady Changed America by Kathi Appelt.

Sideways Stories from Wayside School by Louis Sachar.

When Is a Planet Not a Planet?: The Story of Pluto by Elaine Scott.

Bulletin Boards

Texas Authors

Post photos of Texas children's authors, their names, and pictures of some of their book covers. Many youth authors were also librarians. A variation would be to highlight Texas librarians who are authors. Cynthia Leitich Smith has an amazing web site of Texas authors at www.cynthialeitichsmith.com/lit_resources/authors/texasauth-ill.html.

Displays

Display books written or illustrated by native Texans or people who are living here now. Highlight one author by displaying their books and a biography about them. Display books that children have written in a library program, or collaborate with a school or summer camp to display books that children have written.

Decorations

Make a display of your patrons' favorite books. Ask them to write down their favorite book titles on pieces of paper shaped like books, and hang them throughout the library.

Incentives

Order pencils from Texas author Linda Ayers with the message "A Story is Trapped Inside This Pencil. Let It Out!™" at www.lindaayers.com/writing_incentives.php.

Refreshments

Serve a cake in shape of Texas, or in the shape of a book. Kids will love to eat *Hank the Cowdog Co-op Dog Food* (sweetened puffed rice cereal) served in a dog bowl. Make Texas Twister punch by combining fruit juice and soda.

Audio Recordings

"Metamorphosis" on *I Was a Supa-Dupa Pupa!* By Lucas Miller.

"State Laughs" and "The Court of King Carakitus" on *Cooperation Garden Time: Stories and Songs for Kids* by Tom McDermott.

"We Don't Give a Hoot" on *Tales and Tunes from Hank the Cowdog*.

Videos/DVD's/Films

Wayside: The Movie. (49 minutes)

When Zachary Beaver Came to Town. (85 minutes)

Web Sites

Book Cover Creator

www.readwritethink.org/materials/bookcover/

This site has an easy to use template for creating a design for a book cover, spine, and front and back flaps.

Hank the Cowdog Official

www.hankthecowdog.com

Learn more about Hank and author John Erickson, and play games.

How to Make a Book

www.superpages.com/enlightenme/superthinkers/pages/how_to.html

This site offers simple inspiration for the actual writing of a book.

Making a Duct Tape Bookcover

www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Duct-Tape-Book-Cover

Easy to follow directions for making a book cover out of duct tape.

Poetry 4 Kids

www.poetry4kids.com/index.php

This extensive site is packed with ideas on how to write poetry, games, a rhyming dictionary and much more.

Writer's Window

<http://english.unitecology.ac.nz/writers/workshop.html>

Get great writing tips and children can submit their own writing.

Professional Resources

Directory of Authors, Illustrators and Storytellers West of the Mississippi by Gwynne Spencer.

ASL Pro

www.aslpro.com

This site has the best video sign language dictionary online.

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Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!

Published by the Library Development Division of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Austin, Texas 2009.

Author Online! Aaron Shepard's Home Page

www.aaronsherp.com

A wealth of stories and resources make this site a storyteller's dream.

Bus Songs

www.bussongs.com

This site includes lyrics to a wide variety of children's songs.

Costume Specialists

www.cospec.com

This is a great place to go to rent character costumes.

Cynthia Leitich Smith

<http://www.cynthialeitichsmith.com>

This amazing site has pod casts, author lists, an award winning blog and much more. This site is a must!

eHow

www.ehow.com

This site tells you how to do just about anything.

Instructables: The World's Biggest Show and Tell

www.instructables.com

This comprehensive site has instructions on everything under the sun.

Kiddiddles

<http://kididdles.com>

This is a comprehensive site for songs for children.

Lee Bergman Home Page

www.mothteeth.com

This home page of designer Lee Bergman shows how to make a book.

Linda Ayers

www.lindaayers.com

Texas children's author that has pencils to inspire writers.

School Clip Art

www.school-clip-art.com

If you need clip art of animals or other related topics for children, this is the place to go.

Society of Children's Book Writer's and Illustrators

www.scbwi.org/index.htm

This is a great place to go to find children's authors. There are five groups in Texas. To find the closest one to your area go to www.scbwi.org/regions.htm.

West Texas Book and Music Festival, Wall of Texas Authors at
www.abilenetx.com/apl/bookfest_authors.html

Here you will find a compiled list of Texas authors.

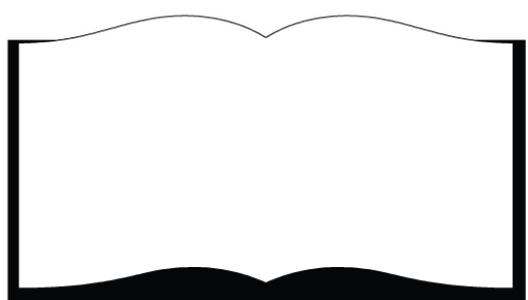
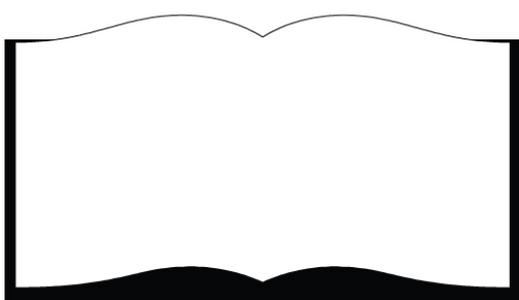
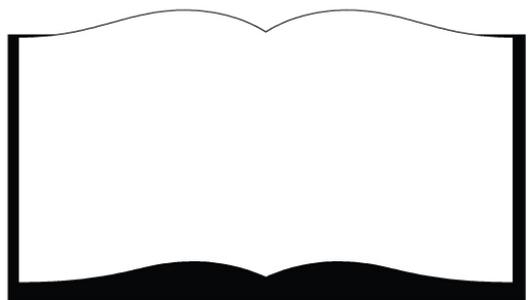
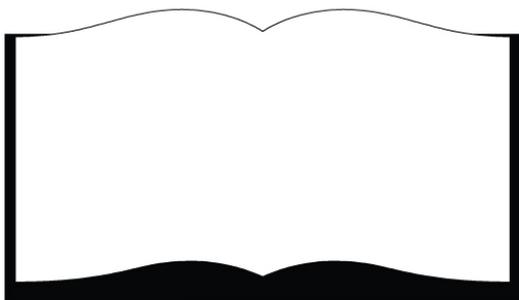
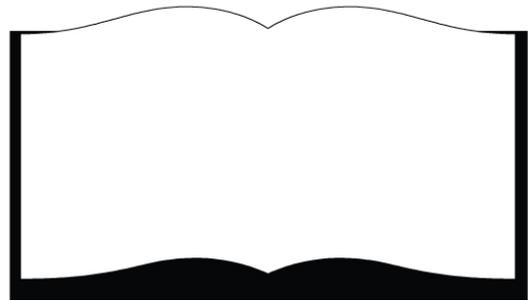
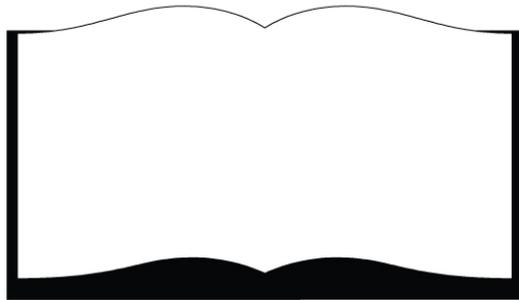
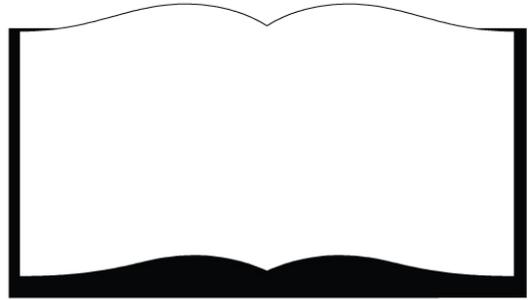
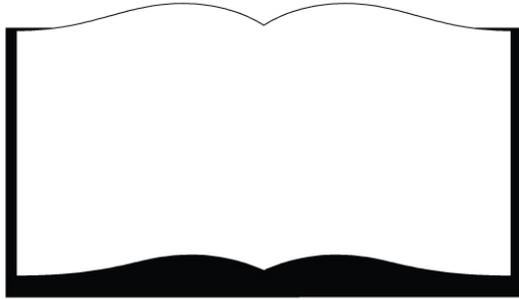
YouTube

www.youtube.com

This site provides videos from people all around the world.

Craft Materials

Open Book Nametags



Para los niños / For the Children

A Collaborative Program of the Houston Public Library and The Children's Museum of Houston

By Rose Treviño

Introduction

Para los niños / For the Children was developed collaboratively by the Houston Public Library and the Houston Children's Museum. This outstanding bilingual family literacy program is available online at www.cmhouston.org/losninos/, and we invite libraries to offer it during the summer and throughout the year. The site is available in both English and Spanish. Just click on your preferred language!

Program Description

Imagine a place where kids are engaged in stories, and more. They learn science and math skills through picture books. They work with a parent in a friendly learning environment. Imagine a place where immigrant families whose first language is Spanish can come and find that the program is conducted in Spanish or bilingual, English/Spanish with handouts that are bilingual in Spanish and English. Welcome to *Para los niños/For the Children*. First introduced in 2004 at two branch libraries of the Houston Public Library in a pilot program funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services National Leadership Grants, the program has grown and now includes multiple libraries at the Houston Public Library, the Harris County Public Library, the Broward County Library, the New York Public Library, and the Brooklyn Public Library. This partnership between The Children's Museum of Houston and the Houston Public Library has allowed the library to serve the Spanish-speaking communities in Houston and to provide training for national partners in Minneapolis, Ft. Lauderdale, New York City and Brooklyn. Libraries throughout Texas are invited to share these excellent resources! Instructions for implementing the program are available in the downloadable tool kit at www.cmhouston.org/attachments/contentmanagers/714/2007ParaLosNinosToolkitENG.pdf.

The goal of the program is to provide monolingual Spanish speaking parents with increased access to resources, strategies and activities that improve their ability to serve as the "first teachers" of their children, ages birth through seven. The program has been developed into eight themes with activities that are easy to replicate in libraries and at home. Links to each of the eight programs are at www.cmhouston.org/en/cms/?679. Downloadable handouts for each program are available in a bilingual (Spanish/English) format.

1. *Theme: Communication.* This program presents opportunities to identify the best attributes present in a family, and to further develop these attributes through sharing and active listening.
2. *Theme: Healthy Minds/Healthy Bodies.* This program presents a range of "do's and don'ts" related to stimulating brain development and proactively

2009 Texas Reading Club Manual

Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!

Published by the Library Development Division of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Austin, Texas 2009.

limiting exposure to harmful substances.

3. *Theme: How Children Learn Best.* This program presents strategies for identifying and supporting each child's unique learning preferences.
4. *Theme: Loving Limits.* This program presents opportunities to examine parenting styles through group discussion, role-play and dramatization.
5. *Theme: Math at Home.* This program presents strategies for facilitating activities that help children to learn mathematical concepts and to appreciate math's "real world" connections.
6. *Theme: Raise a Reader.* This program presents strategies for engaging children in activities that facilitate the development of pre- and early-reading skills.
7. *Theme: Taking Time/Taking Turns.* This program presents strategies for taking part in play and recognizing its positive influence on a child's development.
8. *Theme: Your Child's Self Esteem.* This program presents strategies for building a child's sense of self worth by viewing a child's behavior against the backdrop of his or her search for identity and self-respect.

Repetition, group participation, and creative dramatics are all part of the story experience. The following tips for parents are included in every program.

- Reading with your children is very important
- Books should be appropriate for age and ability
- Reading connects you with the world

Here is an outline for presenters describing the format for the programs.

1. Welcome parents and their children to the library and to the program.
2. Provide a simple introduction about what will happen during the program.
3. Read a book.
4. Ask questions about situations in the story and let participants discuss the story.
5. Distribute library card applications to parents who do not have a card and assist with filling them out.
6. Present learning activities related to the theme.
7. Give parents bilingual handouts, plus an easy to replicate activity sheet with supplies to do this at home.
8. Provide a display of books related to the parenting theme for checkout.

A few sample programs are included below.

Agenda

1. Story time with child and parent(s)
2. Discussion with parents about the importance of reading and interaction
3. The hands-on learning activities

Workshop Sequence

1. Prepare the learning activities before the date of the workshop.
2. Arrive at least 30 minutes before the workshop.
3. Set up the activities and prepare the handouts to share with the participants.
4. Greet and invite the families to the workshop area.
5. Gather the families together either on the floor or sitting in chairs for the story time.
6. Model good reading techniques using dialogic reading and book descriptions during the story related to the theme.
7. Talk to the parents for about 20 minutes about the theme of the day.
8. Allow about 10 minutes for discussions and questions.
9. Gather the parents and children and explain all of the activities and talk about how they relate to the theme.
10. Facilitate the activities, encouraging the parents to work with their children.
11. Make sure all parents have the handouts including the directions for the activities.
12. Give the families information about using the library and assist them in getting a library card.
13. Invite the families back for the next workshop.

Parent & Child Program Title: **Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies**

General Points to Cover

- Parents should model healthy eating and exercise.
- Talking together can enhance emotional health.
- The importance of early brain development.
- Children need to practice using small and large muscle groups.

Books to Read (English and Spanish)

D.W. the Picky Eater by Marc Brown

D.W., la quisquillosa por Marc Brown.

The Doorbell Rang by Pat Hutchins.

Llaman a la puerta por Pat Hutchins.

From Head to Toe by Eric Carle.

De la cabeza a los pies por Eric Carle.

Hands-on Activities

D.W.'s Healthy Food Plate

Supplies

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Published by the Library Development Division of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Austin, Texas 2009.

- Paper plates
- Glue
- Pictures of fruit, vegetables, meat, cheese, and other foods from magazines

What Children Do

Children fill up D.W.'s plate with healthy food choices and glue the pictures of the food on the paper plate.

Sharing Cookies

Supplies

- Crayons
- Cookies made of construction paper

What Children Do

1. Give each child a dozen cookies to color and decorate.
2. Count the cookies together.
3. Begin a lesson on dividing the cookies equally with 2 people, then 3 people, then 4 people.
4. Talk about how many cookies they had when there were only 2 people, etc.

Rhythm Makers

Supplies

- Paper cups
- Cheerios or rice
- Wax paper
- Tape

What Children Do

1. Place a small amount of cheerios or rice into the cup
2. Cover and seal the top with wax paper and tape

Get Active

Supplies

- CD player
- CD's with music to get children moving

What Children Do

Play "La raspa" on *Lirica Infantil con José-Luís Orozco, Animales y Movimiento, Volumen 4* by José-Luís Orozco, and show the kids a simple hop and kick to go with the music.

Play "Get Ready to Wiggle" on *Let's Wiggle* by the Wiggles as the children wiggle their fingers, ears, eyes, hair, and more.

Parent & Child Program Title: Raise a Reader

General Points to Cover

- Reading with your child is VERY important.
- There are many different ways to share a book with a child.
- Talk about the parts of a book (the cover, the spine, the title, etc).
- Books should be appropriate for age and ability.
- Reading connects you with the world.
- There are free resources at the library for your family.

Books to Read

Albert's Alphabet by Leslie Tryon.

Alphabet fiesta: an English/Spanish alphabet story by Anne Miranda.

Alfabeto by Lourdes M. Alvarez.

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin.

Hands-on Activities

ABC Dough

Supplies

- Play dough
- Chenille stems

What Children Do

1. Form alphabet letters with the play dough or chenille stems.
2. Ask the children to form the first letter of their name.
3. Play a game asking the children to sound out the letters and then think of words that start with the letters.

Catch A Word

Supplies

- A fishing pole with a magnet tied to the end
- Magnetic letters
- Small inflatable swimming pool

What Children Do

1. Fish for letters
2. Take the letters and sound them out
3. Make words out of the letters

Alphabet Tunes

Play alphabet songs that will get children singing and moving. Here are some recommended CD's.

"El abecedario" and "Can a Jumbo Jet Sing the Alphabet?" on *Cantamos y Aprendemos con José-Luis Orozco* by José-Luis Orozco.

"Alphabet in Motion" on *Songs For Learning Through Music and Movement* by Hap Palmer.

Parent & Child Program Title: How Your Child Learns

General Points to Cover

- Everyone has certain things they do well.
- Parents should observe their child to identify what their child does well.
- Howard Gardner has identified 8 different intelligences that everyone possesses.
- Teach your child using different learning styles.
- Read poetry books to your child.

Books to Read (Spanish and English)

Un gato y un perro/A Cat and a Dog by Claire Masurel.

The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle.

La oruga muy hambrienta por Eric Carle.

Olivia by Ian Falconer.

Olivia por Ian Falconer.

A Tree is Nice by Janice May Udry.

El árbol es hermoso por Janice May Udry.

Hands-on Activities

Life Cycle Wheel

Supplies

- Paper plates
- Dried beans or seeds
- Green leaves
- Cotton balls
- Green pasta
- Small twigs
- Colored tissue paper cut into small squares
- Black chenille stems
- Blue
- Pencils or markers

Introduce the activity by talking about the four stages a caterpillar goes through before becoming a butterfly.

What Children Do

1. Divide a paper plate into four sections by folding it in quarters and marking the lines.
2. Glue a bean or seed onto a leaf and glue the leaf on the paper plate for the "egg" stage.
3. Glue the green pasta for the "caterpillar" stage.
4. Glue the cotton ball for the "chrysalis" stage. (Note: Eric Carle's book, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, mistakenly uses the word "cocoon", which is for moths.)
5. Make a butterfly by twisting the chenille stem around a square of tissue paper.
6. Glue the "butterfly" on the last section.
7. Talk about the four stages of the life-cycle.

Arm Tree

Supplies

- 11" x 17" paper
- Crayons and markers
- Pencils
- Yarn,
- Tissue paper
- Rough rubbing plate or real bark
- Glue

What Children Do

1. Trace an arm and hand on paper.
2. Cut and glue small pieces of yarn to the bottom for the roots.
3. Make the bark on your tree by using a rubbing plate or real bark and rub with the side of a brown crayon.
4. Make the twigs and leaves on the branches using markers and tissue paper.

Toddler Programs Chapter

By Miranda Bauer and WyLaina Hildreth

Family Scootin' Boogie

Books to Share

If Kisses Were Colors by Janet Lawler.

Abuela by Arthur Dorros.

The Family Book by Todd Parr.

Mama Cat has Three Kittens by Denise Fleming.

Tell Me Again About the Night I Was Born by Jamie Lee Curtis.

Nametag

Cut out individual paper doll shapes for each of the children who come to the program. Use the patterns from web sites such as *About.com Family Crafts: Design Your Own Paper Dolls* at <http://familycrafts.about.com/od/paperdolls/tp/paperdolls.htm>. Write the child's name on the doll and attach it to their clothing.

Fingerplays

Family

(Begin with an open hand and extended fingers. Point to each finger as you recite the rhyme, beginning with your "thumb" for the mother.)

This is the mother, so kind and good.

This is the father who buys our food.

This is the brother so big and tall.

This is the sister who loves her doll.

This is the baby so little you see.

Short and tall is the family.

Rhymes and Poetry

These Are Grandma's Glasses

These are Grandma's glasses,

This is Grandma's hat,

This is the way she folds her arms,

And lays them in her lap.

These are Grandpa's glasses,

This is Grandpa's hat,

This is the way he folds his arms,
And takes a little nap.

Flannel Boards

Make a flannel board to go along with the picture book, *Mama Cat has Three Kittens* by Denise Fleming, using the picture of a cat from *First School* at, www.first-school.ws/theme/animals/cp_pets/cp_cat.htm.

Crafts

Family Photo Frame

Materials

- Craft sticks
- Glue
- Construction paper
- Markers, or other embellishments you have on hand

Directions

Give each child four craft sticks to glue together into square with a space in the middle for a photo. Allow each child to decorate a frame however they like.

Family Collage

Materials

- Children's magazines
- Glue sticks
- Construction paper
- Scissors

Directions

Have the children find pictures of families in the magazines. These pictures can be of animal families, cartoon families, or photographs of people. They can also include pictures of individuals. Ask the children to cut out the pictures they find and glue the magazine pages to the construction paper to make a collage, with the help of their caregivers.

Family Puppets

Materials

- Small individual photographs of family members
- Craft sticks
- Construction paper
- Laminating sheets

Directions

In advance, cut construction paper into 5 X 7 inch rectangles. These will accommodate a 4 X 6 inch photograph, which is a common size. You can also make a variety of sizes of rectangles to accommodate smaller photographs. Let the parents trim the photographs they bring in to fit on the construction paper and the children glue the photographs to the paper. The librarian or parent applies the laminating sheets to protect the photographs. The child glues a craft stick to the back of the photograph to make a puppet. Let the children make one puppet with a picture of each family member.

Games and Activities

Bring out a collection of multicultural family puppets for free play after stories and encourage adults and children to interact.

Play "De Colores" while children dance with Hispanic Paper Flowers or Rainbow Streamers (see "Toddler Programs: Texas Skies" for Rainbow Streamers craft).

Books to Display or Booktalk

Are You My Mother? by P.D. Eastman.

Clifford's Family by Norman Bridwell.

Hooray for Fish! by Lucy Cousins.

Quilt Story by Tony Johnston.

The Relatives Came by Cynthia Rylant.

Bulletin Board

My Family / Mi Familia

Make a bilingual bulletin board that shows a family. Display pictures or photographs of family members such as mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, babies, grandmothers and grandfathers, aunts and uncle, and cousins. The photographs or pictures should reflect a diverse group of people and avoid stereotypes. For example, avoid photographs of grandmothers with grey hair and buns. When the photographs are up, label them in two different languages. For example, label them in Spanish and English as "Mother / Madre, Father / Padre, Brother / Hermano, Sister / Hermana, Baby / Bebè, Grandmother / Abuela, Grandfather / Abuelo, Aunt / Tia, Uncle / Tio, and Cousin / Primo or Prima (depending on gender).

Displays

Along with books, display photographs of your staff. Take current photographs of staff and display them with photographs of staff with their families. These photographs can be both older and/or current. Make copies of the photographs if staff members want them back before the end of the summer. This type of display will allow you to show different types of families. Some photographs may have only one child or parent.

Videos/DVD's/Films

"The Napping House" on *Good Night, Gorilla...and More Bedtime Stories*. (51 minutes).

Web Sites

First-School.ws: Cat Coloring Pages

www.first-school.ws/theme/animals/cp_pets/cp_cat.htm

This site includes several cat coloring pages.

About.com Family Crafts: Design Your Own Paper Dolls

<http://familycrafts.about.com/od/paperdolls/tp/paperdolls.htm>

Templates, ideas, and more information about paperdolls.

Professional Resources

A to Z Teacher Stuff: Families

www.atozteacherstuff.com/Themes/Family/

Ideas for songs, art, activities, and more.

Everything Preschool – Family Theme

www.everythingpreschool.com/themes/families/index.htm

This web site has songs, games, and an encyclopedia which will help toddlers learn about families.

Family Theme

<http://stepbystepcc.com/familytheme.html>

This web site for teachers includes information on books to read aloud, songs, fingerplays, and information on families.

Gayle's Preschool Rainbow: Me, My Family and Friends

www.preschoolrainbow.org/family-theme.htm

This web site contains recommended books, activities, and songs which can be included in a storytime with the theme of family and friends.

Alphabet Do-Si-Do

Books to Share

Alphabet Under Construction by Denise Fleming.

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin Jr.

So Many Bunnies: A Bedtime ABC and Counting Book by Rick Walton.

A, My Name is Alice by Jane Bayer.

Shiver Me Letters: A Pirate ABC by June Sobel.

Nametag

Give the children die-cut letters of the alphabet for nametags. Write the children's name on the letter their name begins with. For example, write the "Adam" on an "A."

Songs

Sing the "ABC Song."

Flannel Boards

Letter Role Call

Cut out two sets of letters from flannel and pass them out to the children as they come into the room. Make sure every child has at least one letter. Recite the following line for each letter, and ask the children to say it with you. When the child's letter is called, they come up and place the letter on the flannel board. Continue through the entire alphabet.

A, a. Who has the A?

B, b. Who has the B?

Crafts

ABC Pasta Bracelet

Make the "Alphabet Noodle Bracelet" craft at *About.com Family Crafts* at <http://familycrafts.about.com/library/projects/blalphabrace.htm>.

Games and Activities

Sand Letters

Fill a baking dish halfway with sand. Show the children how to write letters in the sand with a finger and allow them to take turns writing letters with their fingers in the sand.

Books to Display or Booktalk

Eating the Alphabet: Fruits and Vegetables from A to Z by Lois Ehlert.

ABC Mystery by Doug Cushman.

Alpha Bugs by David Carter.

Martha Speaks by Susan Meddaugh.

Bulletin Board

Cover the board in a basic color of paper or cloth. Add letters of the alphabet made from different materials. For example, attach letters such as a wooden "A", or a "B" made from foam. Place the letters at a level the toddlers can reach

so they can touch and feel. Give the toddlers coloring sheets with all the letters of the alphabet. Let them color the letter that is at the beginning of their first name. Decorate the rest of the board with these coloring sheets. Letter coloring sheets are available at *DLTK's Growing Together* at www.dltk-teach.com/alphabuddies/index.html.

Displays

Make a display with objects which start with each letter of the alphabet. For example, place a puppet of a bug or a ball next to the letter "B." Objects to include can be found online at *Oriental Trading Company* at www.orientaltrading.com.

Audio Recordings

Alphabet Jam Songs & Rhymes to Build Early Reading Skills by Cathy Bollinger.

Web Sites

Alphabet Noodle Bracelet Craft

<http://familycrafts.about.com/library/projects/blalphabrace.htm>

Make a simple noodle bracelet using these easy instructions.

DLTK's Alphabuddies Alphabet Activities

www.dltk-teach.com/alphabuddies/index.html

This web site contains letter coloring sheets that you can print out.

Professional Resources

American Library Association: Every Child Ready to Read

www.ala.org/ala/alsc/ecrr/ecrrhomepage.cfm

This web site contains information on pre-literacy skills and letter recognition.

Everything Preschool: Alphabet

www.everythingpreschool.com/alphabet/index.htm

This web site contains games and activities along with book suggestions for toddlers and preschoolers about letters and letter recognition.

First School: Alphabet Preschool Activities and Crafts

www.first-school.ws/theme/alphabet.htm

A web site for preschool teachers that contains lesson plans, games, activities, and printable copies of the letters.

Preschool Express: Preschool Alphabet Activities

www.preschoolexpress.com/alphabet_station.shtml

This web site contains printable versions of the alphabet in uppercase and lowercase.

Animal Stompin' Jive

Books to Share

A House Is A House for Me by Mary Ann Hoberman.

Bark, George by Jules Feiffer.

Sheep in a Jeep by Nancy Shaw.

Hilda Must Be Dancing by Karma Wilson.

Nametag

Cut out animal shapes from die cuts, or using the coloring pages on the *Coloring Book Pages* at <http://www.coloring.ws/animals.html>. Allow the children to pick an animal they like, and write the child's name on the animal.

Fingerplays

Turtle

There was a little turtle	<i>(make circle with hands)</i>
He lived in a box.	<i>(make box with hands)</i>
He swam in a puddle.	<i>(wiggle hands)</i>
He climbed on the rocks.	<i>(climb fingers of one hand onto the other)</i>
He snapped at a mosquito,	<i>(clap hands)</i>
He snapped at a flea.	<i>(clap hands)</i>
He snapped at a minnow,	<i>(clap hands)</i>
He snapped at me.	<i>(point to self)</i>
He caught the mosquito.	<i>(open both palms up and snap fingers back shut)</i>
He caught the flea.	<i>(open both palms up and snap fingers back shut)</i>
He caught the minnow,	<i>(open both palms up and snap fingers back shut)</i>
But he didn't catch me.	

Rhymes and Poetry

Animals

(Suit actions to words.)

Can you hop like a rabbit?

Can you jump like a frog?

Can you walk like a duck?

Can you run like a dog?

Can you fly like a bird?

Can you swim like a fish?

And be still like a good child,

As still as this?

Crafts

Paper Bag Puppets

Materials

- Paper bags
- Washable markers
- Glue
- Animal templates from the *First School* web site at www.first-school.ws/theme/crafts/paper_bag_puppets.htm.

Directions

Before the program begins, cut out the templates available at *First School* at www.first-school.ws/theme/crafts/paper_bag_puppets.htm. Give each child a paper bag and the animal template of their choice. They can mix and match the animal heads and bodies if they like. Help them glue the pieces of the template to the paper bag. Allow them to decorate the puppet with washable markers.

Games and Activities

Can You Walk and Talk Like an Animal?

Ask the toddlers to stand up and act like animal as you call out their names, such as a lion. Then, ask the toddlers to call out animals for the group to act out.

Bulletin Board

Decorate a bulletin board with all kinds of animals. Ellison has a wide range of die cuts that would be great for this interactive bulletin board, including elephants, birds, giraffes, hippos, lions, zebras, and many other animals. Let the toddlers pick their favorite animal and decorate it using washable markers, available at *Staples* at www.staples.com. Affix the animals to the bulletin board. The toddlers will love that they got to help decorate it!

Books to Display or Booktalk

Mr. Brown Can Moo, Can You? by Dr. Seuss.

Who Hops? by Katie Davis.

Naming the Cat by Laurence P. Pringle.

Barnyard Banter by Denise Fleming.

Displays

Display animal puppets and books and make an animal habitat by including trees, ponds, and other scenery. Realistic animal puppets can be found at *Folkmanis Puppets* at www.folkmanis.com.

Web Sites

Coloring Book Pages

www.coloring.ws/coloring.html

Free coloring pages where you can find many different animals.

First School.com: Paper Bag Puppets

www.first-school.ws/theme/crafts/paper_bag_puppets.htm

This web site offers printable templates for paper bag puppet crafts.

Folkmanis

www.folkmanis.com

This is a web site that sells puppets and props for storytelling.

Staples

www.staples.com

This web site is an online version of the office supply store.

Professional Resources

Everything Preschool: Sea Animals

www.everythingpreschool.com/themes/seanimals/

This web site offers games, activities, and fun things to do with sea animals.

First-School.com: Farm Animals

www.first-school.ws/theme/animals/farm.htm

A web site that offers coloring pages and activities for farm animals.

Gayles Preschool Rainbow: Activities for Toddlers

www.preschoolrainbow.org/toddler-theme.htm

This web site contains many different activities for toddlers to do.

Online Preschool / Toddler Activities and Games

www.fastq.com/~jbpratt/education/links/preactonline.html

This web site offers links to a variety of games for toddlers and preschools to play online.

Circle Triangle Square Dance

Books to Share

Black on White by Tana Hoban.

Mouse Shapes by Ellen Stoll Walsh.

Color Zoo by Lois Ehlert.

Ship Shapes by Stella Blackstone.

Nametag

Cut out basic shapes such as circles, squares, and triangles, and write the child's name on the shape.

Fingerplays

Make a Shape

Draw a circle, draw a circle,
Draw it in the sky.
Use your finger, use your finger,
Make it round as a pie.

Draw a square, draw a square,
Make the lines so straight.
Make a square, make a square,
Draw a box in the air!

Songs

Sing " *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star.*"

Crafts

Super Shape Collage

Materials

- Construction paper
- Glue
- Scissors
- Crayons
- Optional: Tissue paper, sand paper

Directions

In advance, cut shapes of various sizes and colors. Let the children glue the shapes however they want to onto the construction paper. After the glue dries, they can decorate their art with crayons. You may also use various textures when cutting out your shapes, such as tissue paper, sandpaper, etc.

People Shapes

Materials

- Construction paper
- Pre-cut shapes
- Glue
- Crayons

Directions

Pre-cut shapes in various sizes and colors. Give each child a sheet of construction paper. Have each child make a person out of the shapes. For example, a triangle could be used for a body, while a circle could be used as a head, and rectangles for arms. Show the book *Thump, Thump, Rat-a-Tat-Tat* by Gene Baer for inspiration.

Games and Activities

I Spy With Shapes

Seat the children in a circle. Start the game by saying, "I spy" and call out a shape that is in the room. For example, if you have a square table in the room, you could say, "I spy something square." Have the children take turns guessing what it is. The child who guesses correctly gets to call out the next shape. Continue the game until everyone has had a chance to call out a shape.

Shape Hunt

Cut out circles, squares, stars, hearts, and triangles of various sizes and colors and place them around the room. Make one set from flannel material. Place a shape on the flannel board and then ask the toddlers to search the room to find the same shape.

Books to Display or Booktalk

Where a Line Bends... A Shape Begins by Rhonda Gowler Greene.

Round is a Moon Cake: A Book of Shapes by Roseanne Thong.

So Many Circles, So Many Squares by Tana Hoban.

Thump, Thump, Rat-a-Tat-Tat by Gene Baer.

Bulletin Board

Make a bulletin board with basic shapes that when combined make animals you would find here in Texas. Utilize the book *Color Zoo* by Lois Ehlert for inspiration.

Displays

Display objects and props and label their shapes. For example display a beach ball and label it as a circle. Display a square throw pillow and label it as a square.

Professional Resources

DLTK's Shape Buddies

www.dltk-teach.com/shapes/index.htm

This page contains activities for learning shapes, including printable coloring pages, paper crafts, and a jigsaw puzzle you can make.

Teaching Toddlers: Shapes

2009 Texas Reading Club Manual

Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!

Published by the Library Development Division of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Austin, Texas 2009.

www.littlemummy.com/2007/06/18/teaching-toddlers-shapes/

This web site features games and activities to teach toddlers shapes.

Color and Line Dancing

Books to Share

Freight Train by Donald Crews.

Mouse Paint by Ellen Stoll Walsh.

I Went Walking by Sue Williams.

Nametag

Cut rectangles from various colors of construction paper and let the children choose their favorite colors. Write their name on the color they choose.

Songs

It's A Rainbow

(Sing to the tune of "London Bridge.")

Red and orange and yellow too,
Don't forget green and blue!
Add some violet; then you're through,
It's a rainbow!

Audio Recordings

Songs About Colors and Shapes by Kimbo.

Flannel Boards

Color Train

Construct a train with boxcars cut from felt of various colors. Use *Freight Train* by Donald Crews as inspiration. Make objects that match the colors of the boxcars out of felt. For example, make a yellow pencil to match the yellow boxcar. Go over the colors of the train with the toddlers, then hold up an object and have them tell you which boxcar it matches. Or, use Velcro and attach objects, such as pencils or pens.

Crafts

Rainbow Wind Sock

Materials

- Clean toilet paper tubes
- Crepe paper streamers in multiple colors

- Tape
- Markers

Directions

In advance, cut 1-foot lengths of various colors of crepe paper. Allow the children to decorate the tubes with markers and attach a variety of colors of crepe paper with tape.

Mouse Painting

Materials

- Mouse coloring sheets
- Crayons

Directions

Give each child a coloring page of a mouse, using a picture of a mouse found through *Google* images or elsewhere. Allow the children to experiment with colors by coloring the mouse with one color of crayon and then another color to see what color they can make. Hang their creations in the library.

Games and Activities

Color Throw

Cut large blocks of color out of flannel and attach them to a wall at about the same height as most of your toddlers. Cover a ping-pong ball in Velcro and allow the children to take turns throwing the ball at the blocks of color. When the ball sticks to a block of color, have the children shout out the name of the color they hit.

Books to Display or Booktalk

Duckie's Rainbow by Frances Barry.

Harold and the Purple Crayon by Crockett Johnson.

Living Color by Steve Jenkins.

The Deep Blue Sea: A Book of Colors by Audrey Wood.

Bulletin Board

Color Stripes

Make a bulletin board with big bold stripes. Cover the board in two foot wide strips of paper in various colors. Write the name of the colors on the strips.

Color Words

Cover the board in white paper. Section the paper by drawing large black lines every two feet. Label each section with the name of a color. Write the color's name in that color. Invite the children color the sections with the same color.

Displays

Display objects in specific colors. For example, use a red apple and label it red.

Videos/DVDs/Films

Blue's Clues: Shapes and Colors. (96 minutes)

Crazy for Color. (60 minutes)

Professional Resources

How to Teach Your Toddler Colors

www.ehow.com/how_9836_teach-toddler-colors.html

This site has ideas for activities and games for toddlers to learn colors.

Preschool Rainbow

www.preschoolrainbow.org/toddler-theme.htm

Fingerplays, activities, and other great things for toddlers.

Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes

Books to Share

Horns to Toes and In Between by Sandra Boynton.

Piggies by Don Wood.

Whose Toes Are Those? by Jabari Asim.

From Head to Toe by Eric Carle.

Nametag

Let parents trace their children's hands and cut them out to make nametags. Or, pre-cut squares of paper, large enough for a toddler's hand to fit on. Have them trace their hand, but do not cut it out. Write the child's name on the tag they made.

Fingerplays

Here Are My Ears

Here are my ears.

Here is my nose.

Here are my fingers.

Here are my toes.

Here are my eyes,

Both open wide.

Here is my mouth,

With white teeth inside.

Here is my tongue,
That helps me speak.
Here is my chin,
And here are my cheeks.
Here are my hands
That help me play.
Here are my feet
For walking today.

Recite Pat-a-Cake.

Songs

Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes

Head, shoulders, knees, and toes,
Knees and toes.
Head, shoulders, knees, and toes,
Knees and toes.
Eyes and ears and mouth and nose.
Head, shoulders, knees, and toes.

Hokey Pokey

You put your right hand in,
You take your right hand out,
You put your right hand in,
And you shake it all about.
You do the Hokey Pokey,
And you turn yourself around,
That's what it's all about.

Repeat the verses with different body parts.

Crafts

The Shape of Me

Materials

- Bulletin board paper
- Washable markers

Directions

Pre-cut the bulletin board paper in 3-foot lengths. Allow the children to lie down on the paper. Have a parent trace the child's body with the washable markers. Allow the children to color the shape.

Foot Puppets

Materials

- Construction paper
- Markers
- Scissors
- Craft sticks
- Glue

Directions

Lay a piece of construction paper on the ground. Have the child place their shoe on the paper. Trace the shoe. Have the child decorate the shape. Cut out the shape and glue a craft stick to the back of the shoe at the toe.

Games and Activities

Simon Says

This game is about paying attention and listening. The children stand up and the librarian calls out movement directions involving body parts such as, "Simon says touch your toes." If librarian begins the instructions by saying, "Simon Says", the children perform the movement. Intermittently, the librarian omits the phrase "Simon Says" from the beginning of the sentence, and the children who follow the instructions must sit down. Play until one child is left standing.

Books to Display or Booktalk

Clap Your Hands by Lorinda Bryan Cauley.

It's My Body ABC by Lola M. Schaefer.

Look at You!: A Baby Body Book by Kathy Henderson.

Bulletin Board

The Shape of Me

Lay bulletin board paper on the floor and cut a piece that is one foot taller than you are. Lie down on the paper and have a colleague trace around your body with a marker. Cut out the shape. Cover the bulletin board in a solid color of paper. Place the body shape on the board. Place tags on the bulletin board with the names of the body parts. For example, place a tag that says "Hand" next to or on the hand.

Displays

Make a display using human and animal body parts. Prepare die cuts of hands, feet, paws, claws, noses, ears, and eyes. Place them around books such as *From Head to Toe* by Eric Carle.

Audio Recordings

"We Taste With Our Tongues" on *Learning Land & Rainbow Village* by Singin' Steve.

Professional Resources

A to Z Kids Stuff: My Body

www.atozkidsstuff.com/tbody.html

Fingerplays, songs, and activities for toddlers.

Body Parts

<http://pammshouse.com/thememay4.html>

This site has activities and games to help toddlers learn about the different parts of their body.

Everything Preschool

www.everythingpreschool.com/themes/bodyparts/coloringpage.php

Coloring sheets for preschoolers.

Texas 1-2-3 Step

Books to Share

Counting Crocodiles by Judy Sierra.

Twenty is Too Many by Kate Duke.

1-2-3: A Child's First Counting Book by Alison Jay.

The Icky Bug Counting Book by Jerry Pallotta.

One, Two, Three! by Sandra Boynton.

Nametag

Cut out the numbers 1 through 9. These can also be used for games later on in the program.

Fingerplays

Recite "Learning to Count" on Page 112 of *Finger Frolics* by Marilyn Brock.

Songs

Sing "Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed."

Rhymes and Poetry

This Old Man

This old man, he played one.

(hold up one finger)

He played knick-knack on his thumb. *(tap thumbs together)*

Refrain:

With a knick-knack, paddy whack, give the dog a bone. *(tap knees, clap hands, extend one hand)*

This old man came rolling home. *(roll hands)*

This old man, he played two,
He played knick-knack on his shoe. *(hold up two fingers)*
(tap shoe)

Repeat Refrain

This old man, he played three. *(hold up three fingers)*
He played knick-knack on his knee. *(tap knee)*

Repeat Refrain

This old man he played four. *(hold up four fingers)*
He played knick-knack on the floor. *(tap the floor)*

Repeat Refrain

This old man, he played five. *(hold up five fingers)*
He played knick-knack on his drive. *(tap floor)*

Repeat Refrain

This old man, he played six. *(hold up six fingers)*
He played knick-knack on his sticks. *(tap pointer fingers)*

Repeat Refrain

This old man, he played seven. *(hold up seven fingers)*
He played knick-knack along to Devon. *(alternative: up to heaven and pointing outwards or upwards)*

Repeat Refrain

This old man, he played eight. *(hold up eight fingers)*
He played knick-knack on the gate. *(tap hand)*

Repeat Refrain

This old man he played nine. *(hold up nine fingers)*

He played knick-knack on his spine.

(tap back)

Repeat Refrain

This old man, he played ten.

(hold up ten fingers)

He played knick-knack now and then.

(clap hands)

Repeat Refrain

Bulletin Board

Create a picnic scene. Cover the board in green paper for grass. Place a tablecloth in the middle of the board and cover it with pictures of plates of food, and a picnic basket. Surround the tablecloth with ants, using the patterns from the 2004 Texas Reading Club manual at www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/2004/manual/internal_chapters/images/patterns/P_Pattern_Ant.jpg. Write a number on each ant, beginning with the number one.

Displays

Create a display of objects and numbers. Place a large number "1" next to a single book. Place the number "2" next two balls. Complete the display with five different objects.

Crafts

Counting Caterpillars

Materials

- Construction paper in various colors
- Glue
- Scissors
- Crayons

Directions

Cut circles from different colors of construction paper. Let the children glue the circles on a sheet of construction paper to make a caterpillar. They can then draw faces and feet on the caterpillar and number each circle or segment of the caterpillar's body.

Games and Activities

Number Roundup

Using their nametags as a guide, let the kids line up in numerical order, or find friends with matching numbers.

Fish Tank

Copy the fish bowl at *Preschool Coloring Book.com* at www.preschoolcoloringbook.com/color/cpfish3.shtml. Give each child a paper cup of goldfish crackers. Let the children glue down some goldfish onto the fish bowl. Ask them to count the fish in their bowl and write the number of fish on their sheet. The children may also want to decorate their bowls with crayons. Allow them to snack on the goldfish remaining in their cups.

Books to Display or Booktalk

Fish Eyes: A Book You Can Count On by Lois Ehlert.

How Do Dinosaurs Count to Ten by Jane Yolen.

600 Black Spots: A Pop-up Book for Children of All Ages by David A. Carter.

Counting with Wayne Thiebaud by Susan Goldman Rubin.

Audio Recordings

Ants Go Marching by Various Artists.

Videos/DVD's/Films

Chicka Chicka 1-2-3... and More Stories About Counting. (42 minutes)

Web Sites

Preschool Coloring Book: Fish Bowl

www.preschoolcoloringbook.com/color/cpfish3.shtml

This site provides coloring sheets.

Professional Resources

2003 Texas Reading Club Manual Program: I Spy: 1,2,3

<http://zavala.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/2003/manual/toddlers/ispy123.html>

There are more resources on counting in the "I Spy: 123" program in the Toddler Chapter of the 2003 Texas Reading Club Manual.

eHow: How to Teach a Toddler Number Recognition

www.ehow.com/how_9077_teach-toddler-number.html

A web site with games and activities for teaching number recognition.

Parents.com: Counting Games for Toddlers

www.parents.com/toddlers/development/intellectual/counting-games-for-toddlers/

This web site has many different counting games toddlers will love.

Raising Kids: 6 of the Best: Counting Rhymes for Toddlers

www.raisingkids.co.uk/fea/FEA_17.ASP

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Published by the Library Development Division of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Austin, Texas 2009.

A web site that has the best counting rhymes for toddlers.

Cat and Dog Swing

Books to Share

Good Boy, Fergus! by David Shannon.

Have You Seen My Cat? by Eric Carle.

I Want A Pet by Lauren Child.

Pet Animals by Lucy Cousins

Nametag

Dog Bone

Use Ellison die cuts to make shapes of animals that are common pets, such as cats, dogs, birds, and mice. Write the name of the child on the shape of the animal. Or, cut out bones using the [pattern](#) at the end of this program.

Fingerplays

Five Kittens

Five little kittens standing in a row,	<i>(hold up five fingers)</i>
They nod their heads to the children so.	<i>(bend fingers)</i>
They run to the left; they run to the right.	<i>(run fingers to the left and then to the right)</i>
They stand up and stretch in the bright sunlight.	<i>(stretch fingers out tall)</i>
Along comes a dog who's in for some fun.	<i>(hold up one finger from opposite hand)</i>
ME-OW! See those little kittens run!	<i>(let fingers run)</i>

Songs

Sing "Mary Had a Little Lamb."

Flannel Boards

Hey Diddle Diddle

Make a flannel board for the nursery rhyme "Hey Diddle Diddle" with the following pieces: cat, dog, moon, cow, dish and spoon. The *DLTK's* web site has an example of the shapes needed at www.dltk-teach.com/rhymes/heydiddle/mobile.htm. Recite the rhyme and put the pieces on the board. Have the children recite the rhyme with you.

Crafts

My Pet

Materials

- Construction paper in various colors
- Glue
- Markers

Directions

Precut various colors of construction paper into a variety of shapes. Allow the children to glue these shapes onto a piece of construction paper in any manner they wish to make a pet. If they would like, allow them to color and decorate their pet. If they name the pet, write the name of the pet on the paper.

Books to Display or Booktalk

Millions of Cats by Wanda Gag.

Moonbear's Pet by Frank Asch.

Pick A Pet by Shelley Rotner.

Bulletin Board

Display short poems about pets on poster-sized paper on the bulletin board. Provide pictures of cats and dogs for the toddlers to color, from the printable animal coloring pages at *Fun with Pictures.com* at www.fun-with-pictures.com/pet-animals-coloring-pages.html. Hang the children's creations on the board.

Displays

Ask library staff to bring in photos of their pets. Display these photos along with photos of the staff members. You may also include puppets such as dogs, cats, birds, mice, rats, and hedgehogs in the display.

Audio Recordings

Wonder Pets! by Wonder Pets.

Web Sites

DLTK's: Hey Diddle Diddle

www.dltk-teach.com/rhymes/heydiddle/mobile.htm

Very easy to use template for the nursery rhyme.

Fun With Pictures: Pet Animals Coloring Pages

www.fun-with-pictures.com/pet-animals-coloring-pages.html

This web site contains printable coloring pages of pets.

Professional Resources

Disney: Pets and Toddlers

<http://family.go.com/parentpedia/toddler/behavior/toddler-pets/>

Disney web site that has expert advice on integrating pets into a toddler's life.

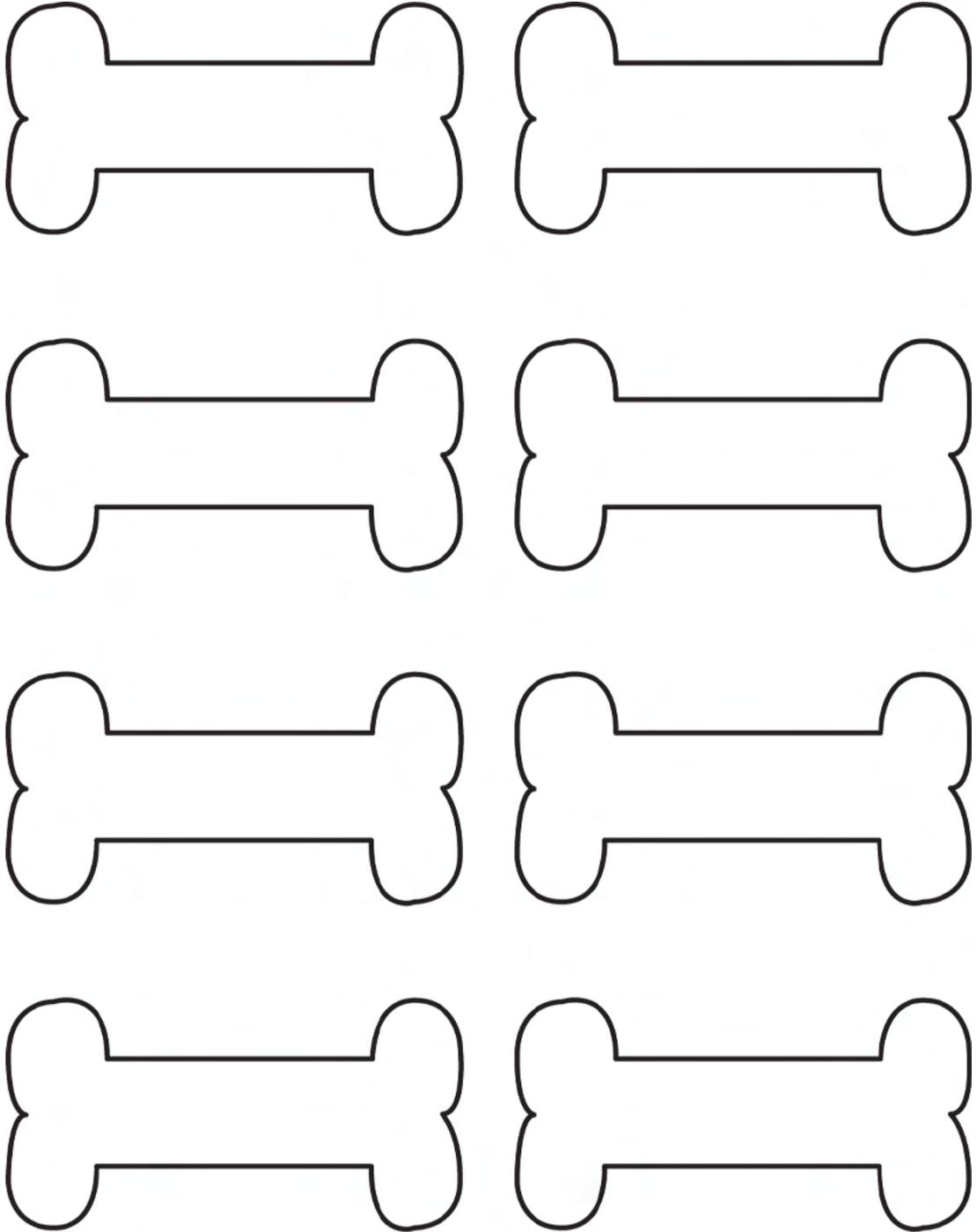
Library Storytime: Toddler Theme - Pets

<http://librarystorytime.wordpress.com/2008/02/04/toddler-theme-pets/>

A blog with tips and hints on doing a theme on pets.

Craft Materials

Dogbone Nametags



Preschool Programs Chapter

By Heather Coleson

Beat the Texas Heat

Books to Share

Froggy Learns to Swim by Jonathan London.

Mouse's First Summer by Lauren Thompson.

Omar on Board by Maryann Kovalski.

One Hot Summer Day by Nina Crews.

One Magical Day by Claire Freedman.

Summer is Summer by Phillis Gershator.

Nametag

Sun Nametag

Make a sun nametag using a die cut or the [pattern](#) provided at the end of this program.

Rhymes and Poetry

This Little Child

(Adapted by Heather Coleson. Based on "This Little Piggy.")

This little child went to Grandma's.

This little child swam in the pool.

This little child had a snow cone.

This one dropped his on the ground.

And this little child went WEEEEEE! through the sprinklers in the yard!

The Itsy Bitsy Spider

(Traditional)

The itsy bitsy spider went up the waterspout.

Down came the rain and washed the spider out.

Out came the sun and dried up all the rain.

And the itsy bitsy spider went up the spout again.

Recite the clapping rhyme, "It's Going to be Hot", on P. 104 of *Seasonal Storytime Crafts* by Kathryn Totten.

Recite the poem, "Ice Cream Sensation", on P. 258-259 of *The Best of Totline Flannelboards* by Kathleen Cubley. Patterns for a flannel board ice cream bowl and ice cream scoop is included.

Recite the poem "Keeping Cool" on P. 276 of *The Best of Totline Flannelboards* by Kathleen Cubley. There are flannel board patterns to compliment this poem are on P. 277-279.

Songs

The Summer Sun

(Adapted by Heather Coleson. Based on "The Wheels on the Bus.")

The hot summer sun goes beat, beat, beat.

(raise arms over your head to form a sun, and then beat legs with hands)

Beat, beat, beat. Beat, beat, beat.

(beat legs with hands)

The hot summer sun goes beat, beat, beat.

(raise arms over your head to form a sun, and then beat legs with hands)

All summer long.

The kids in the pool go splash, splash, splash

(splash hands)

Splash, splash, splash. Splash, splash, splash.

(splash hands)

The kids in the pool go splash, splash, splash.

(splash hands)

All summer long.

The dogs in the yard go pant, pant, pant.

(stick out tongue and pant like dog)

Pant, pant, pant. Pant, pant, pant.

(stick out tongue and pant like dog)

The dogs in the yard go pant, pant, pant.

(stick out tongue and pant like dog)

All summer long.

The sprinklers in the yard go chicka, chicka, chicka.

(move hands back and forth like a sprinkler)

Chicka, chicka, chicka. Chicka, chicka, chicka.

(move hands back and forth like a sprinkler)

The sprinklers in the yard go chicka, chicka, chicka.

(move hands back and forth like a sprinkler)

All summer long.

Mommies and daddies are ready for the Fall.

(pantomime falling leaves while crouching to the ground)

Ready for the Fall, ready for the Fall,

(pantomime falling leaves while crouching to the ground)

Mommies and daddies are ready for the Fall!

(pantomime falling leaves while crouching to the ground)

When will it be here?

(hold out hands like asking a question)

Flannel Boards

2's Experience Felt Board Fun by Liz and Dick Wilmes includes patterns flannel board characters Ali and Aaron, along with summer and winter clothing. Let the children help you dress Ali and Aaron appropriately for summer.

Flannel Board Stories

Tell "The North Wind and the Sun" at www.storyarts.org/library/aesops/stories/north.html. Create a flannel board using the [patterns](#) provided at the end of this program. Invite half of the children to be the sun, holding their arms above their heads with their fingers touching, and invite the other half of the children to be the wind, and blow.



Crafts

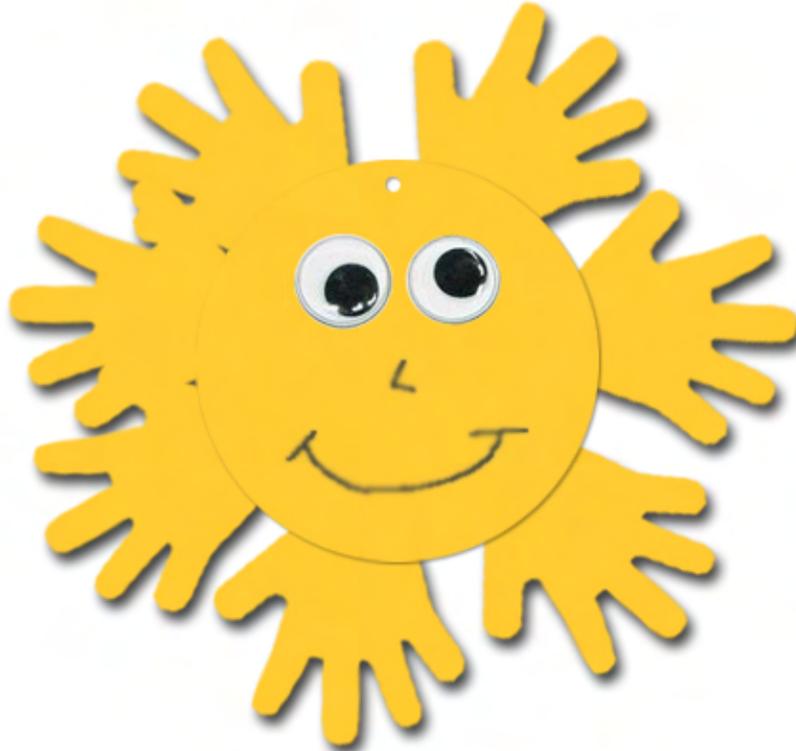
Handprint Sun

Materials

- Construction paper or copier paper
- Glue sticks
- Crayons or markers
- Gigantic wiggly eyes (optional)
- Hand die cut (optional)
- String
- Hole Punch

Directions

Cut a large circle using the [pattern](#) provided. Cut seven to nine handprints using the [pattern](#) provided, a handprint die cut, or tracing a child's hand. Give the children glue to attach Gigantic Wiggly Eyes onto the sun, or let them draw the eyes, nose and mouth. Gigantic Wiggly Eyes can be found at craft stores and at *Oriental Trading Company*. Use a hole punch to punch a hole at the top of the sun's face. Tie a piece of string to the hole so the child can hang the sun from their ceiling at home.



Seashore Collage

Visit *First-School* at www.first-school.ws/activities/artapp/collage.htm for instructions on how to make a seashore collage. Scroll down the page to Activity # 3. You can print the patterns in color at www.first-school.ws/t/shellshorec.htm or in black and white www.first-school.ws/t/shellshore.htm. To add a nice touch to this craft, use sheets of sand paper instead of brown paper.



Games and Activities

Beach Bucket Toss

To play beach bucket toss, line up the children and let them take turns trying to throw a small beach ball into the bucket or sand pail.

Beach Ball Hot Potato

Have all of the children sit on the floor in a large circle. Hand one of the children a beach ball. Explain to the children that you are going to play some music. While the music is playing they are to pass the beach ball to the person next to them. When the music stops the child who has the beach ball has to say or act out a fun thing to do during the summer. Keep going around the circle until all the children have a chance to say or act out a fun summer activity.

Shell Sensory Tub

Fill a large plastic tub, or several small tubs, with sand. Hide several different types of seashells in the sand. Let the children take turns digging for a shell.

Guest Speakers

Invite representative from the local recreation center to talk to the kids and parents about the fun programs and activities they are offering this summer.

Invite a lifeguard to talk about water safety.

Books to Display or Booktalk

Hot City by Barbara Joosse.

Let's Look at Summer by Sarah Schuette.

Sun Dance, Water Dance by Jonathan London.

The Twelve Days of Summer by Jan Andrews.

Bulletin Board

Beat the Texas Heat! Join us Inside for Storytime this Week

Decorate your bulletin board with a giant sun in the upper left hand corner. Add green grass at the bottom, and in the bottom right hand corner, add a large tree with overhanging branches. Place a child, reading a book in the shade of the tree. Or, decorate your bulletin board with a giant sun. In the middle of the sun add photos of children enjoying different activities in your library, such as storytime, playing on the computers, reading, etc.

Display

Create a summer safety display. In your display include items such as sunscreen, lotion, aloe vera, sunglasses etc. Include a handout with your display that lists the summer programs at your library and local community center. Add the following tips on how to stay cool.

- Drink 8-10 glasses of water a day. Drink more if you are out in the sun and participating in heavy activities.
- Avoid sodas and other drinks with caffeine.
- Eat fresh fruits.
- Avoid eating a heavy meal and salty foods.
- Protect yourself from the summer sun by using sunscreen, a hat, and an umbrella.
- Dress in light colored clothes and in lightweight fabrics such as cotton.
- Stay inside during the hottest part of the day, which is between 3 and 5pm.
- Plan indoor activities such as going to the library or the community center.

Decorations

Decorate your storytime room with a giant sun wearing sunglasses, made out of butcher paper. Along the bottom of the wall add a strip of wavy beige butcher paper that has been brushed with a water/glue mixture and dusted with sand. It will look like a small beach scene. Decorate the sand with die-cut starfish, seashells, etc. Add a small strip of blue wavy water at one corner of the sand to look like the sea.

Refreshments

Serve juice boxes and fruit snacks.

Audio Recordings

"Ice Cream Cone" on *Buzz Buzz* by Laurie Berkner.

"Mr. Sun" on *Raffi the Singable Songs Collection* by Raffi.

Videos/DVD's/Films

Reading Rainbow: Summer. (30 minutes)

Dora the Explorer: Summer Explorer. (98 minutes)

Let's Explore Spring and Summer. (38 minutes)

Web Sites

Kids Health

http://kidshealth.org/parent/firstaid_safe/outdoor/sun_safety.html

This web site includes information about sun protection for children for parents. It also includes instructions for taking care of sunburns as well as a heat exhaustion and heatstroke sheet.

Safe Kids Worldwide

www.usa.safekids.org/

Safe Kids is dedicated to preventing accidental childhood injury. It includes numerous topics: toy safety, railroad safety, pedestrian safety, fire and burn safety, and child passenger safety.

Water safety tips can be found at *First School* under Activity #4 at www.first-school.ws/activities/artapp/collage.htm. The tips can be printed in black and white at www.first-school.ws/t/watersafetytipsb.htm or in color at www.first-school.ws/t/watersafetytips.htm.

Professional Resources

2's Experience Felt Board Fun by Liz and Dick Wilmes.

The Best of Totline Flannelboards by Kathleen Cubley.

Seasonal Storytime Crafts by Kathryn Totten.

Accucut

www.accucut.com

You may purchase dies, die-cut machines, and laminators from this web site.

First School

www.first-school.ws

Crafts, lesson plans, printables, and other activities for preschoolers through kindergartners are available on this web site.

It's Storytime

www.geocities.com/mystorytime

This web site includes several preschool storytime themes. In each theme the author includes books, fingerplays, songs, flannel boards, and craft ideas.

Oriental Trading Company

www.orientaltrading.com

Craft supplies, craft kits, party supplies, and small cheap incentives are all available from this web site.

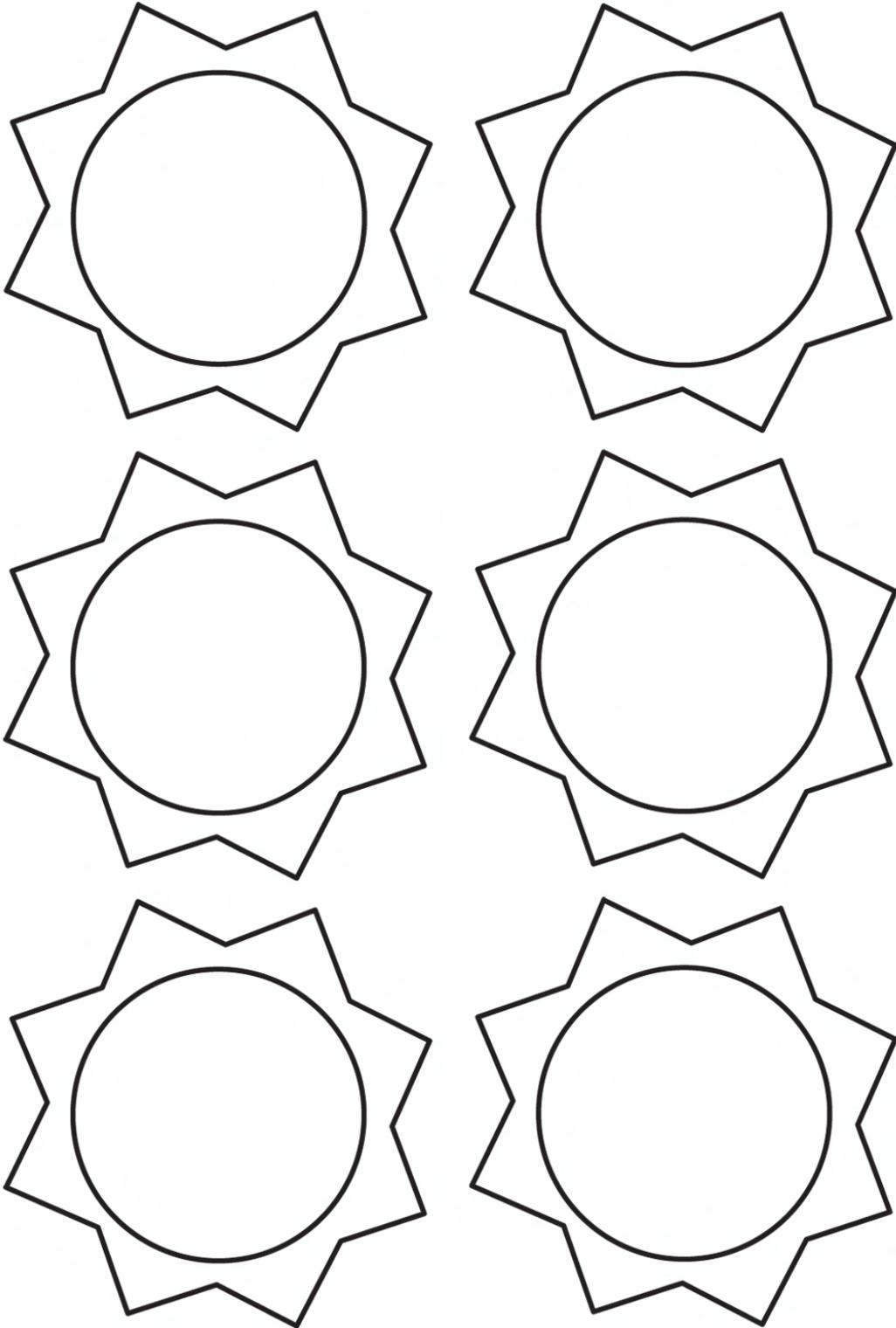
Story Library

www.storyarts.org/library/

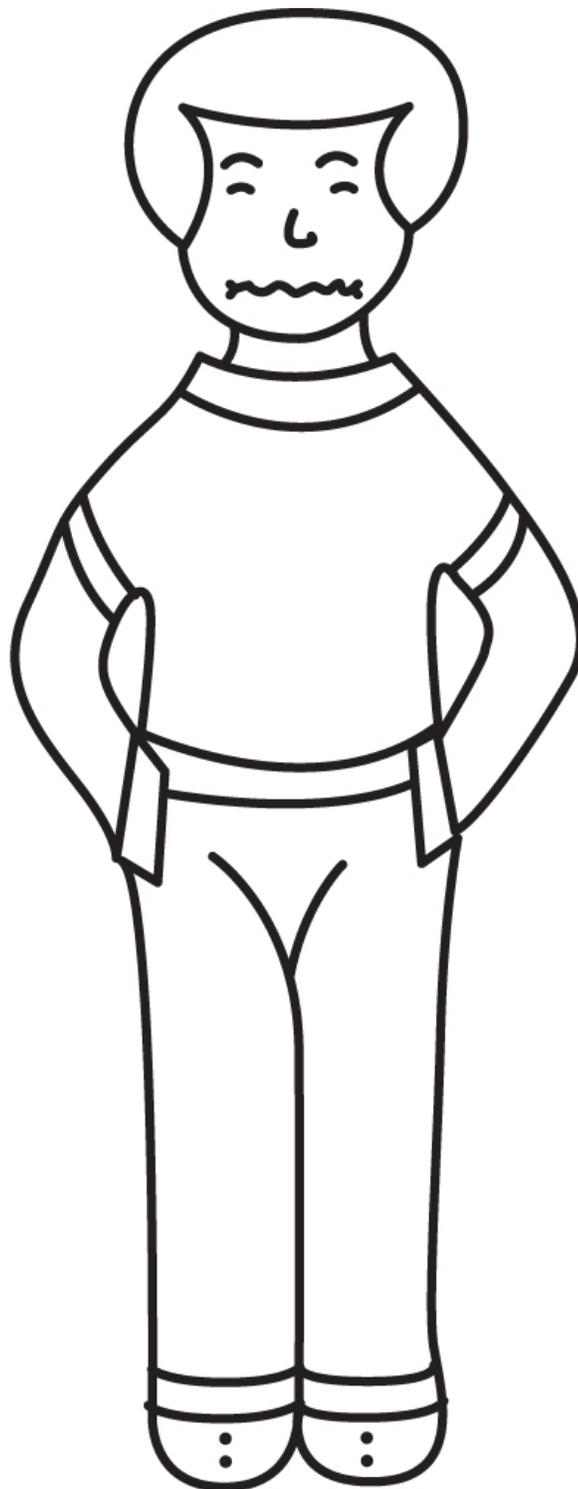
This is a collection of concise story plots retold for students to use in the classroom. It also includes materials and links for teachers.

Craft Materials

Sun/Summer Nametags



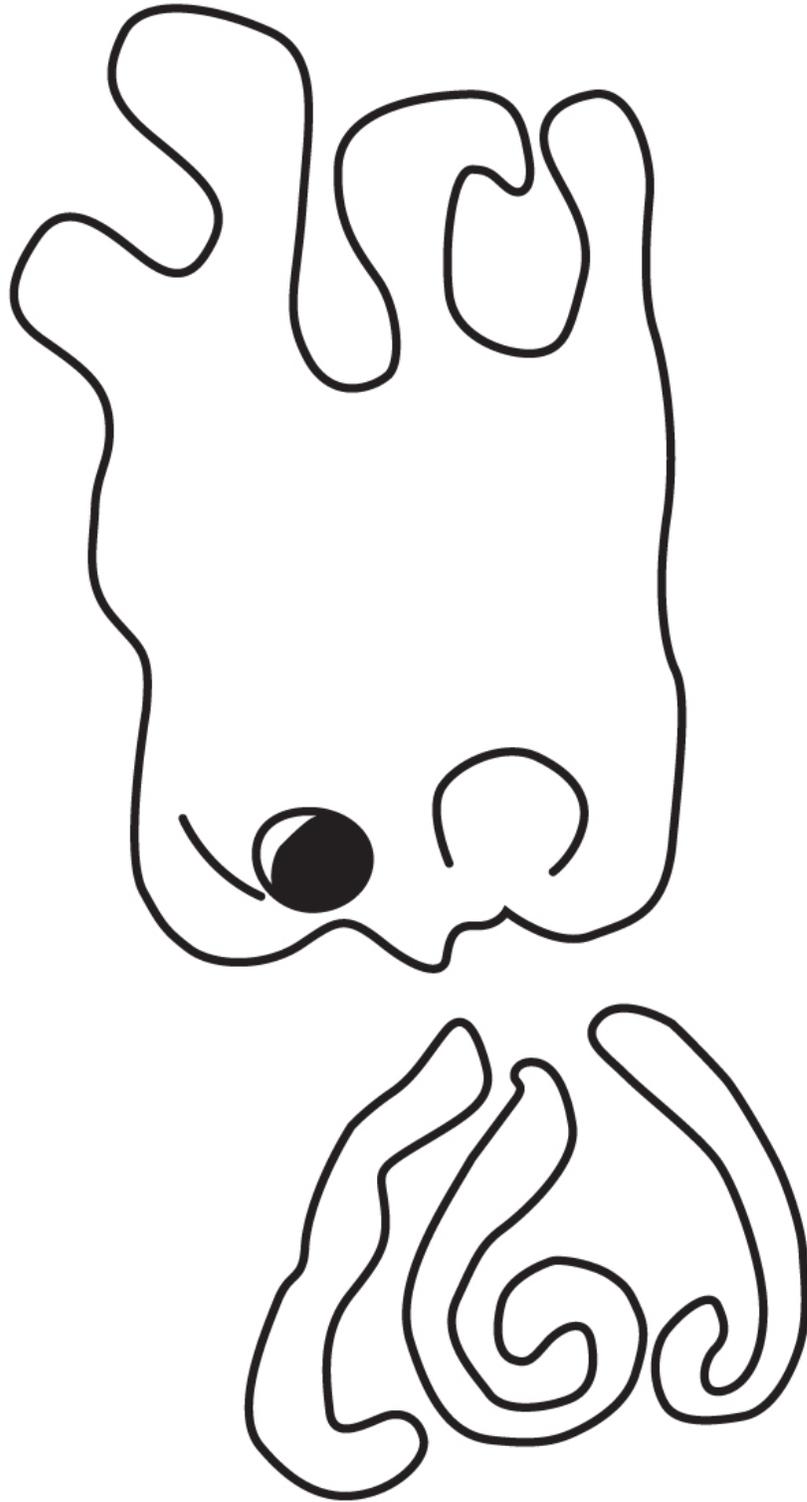
North Wind and the Sun Flannel Board (Pattern 1 of 4)



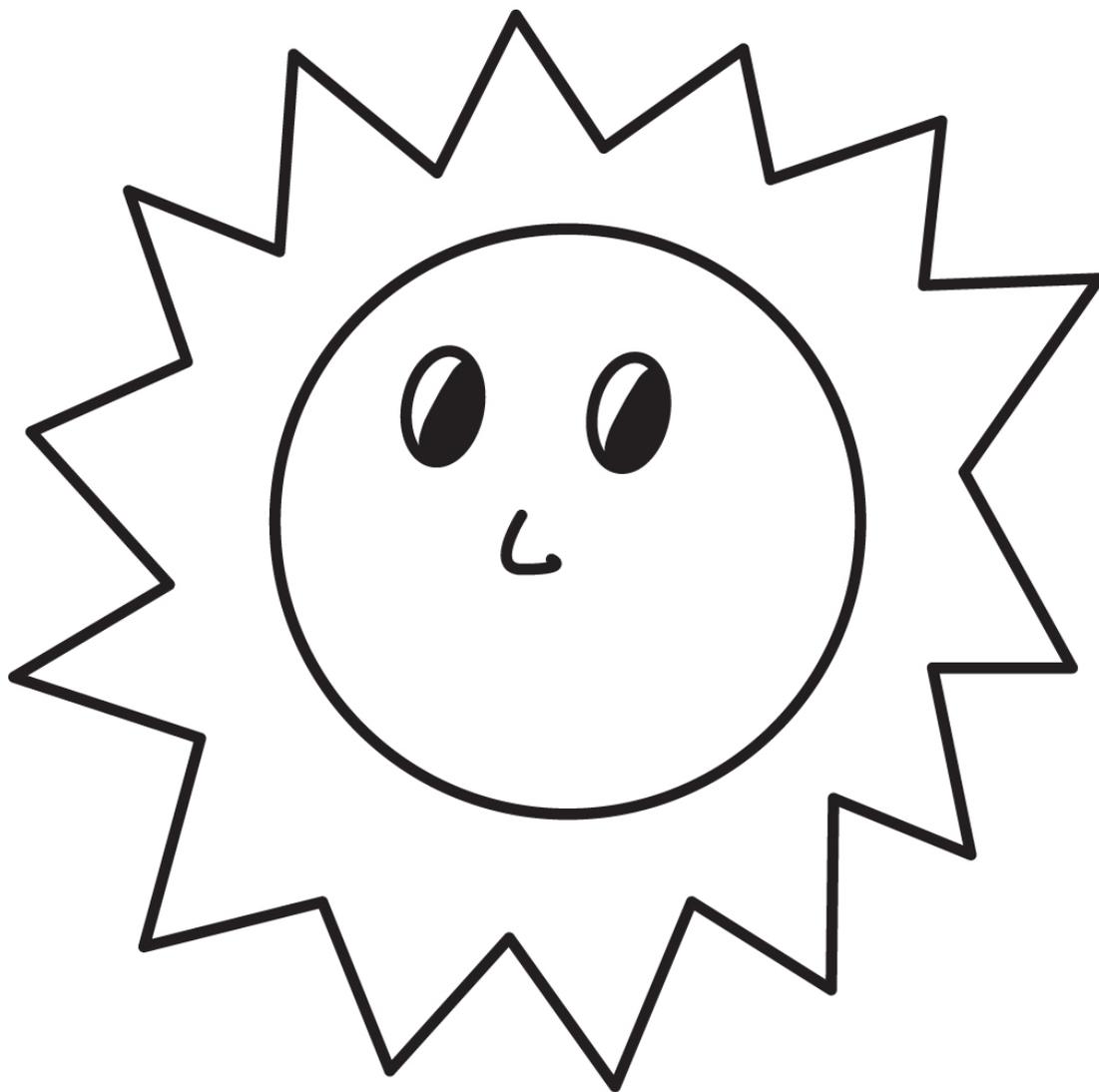
North Wind and the Sun Flannel Board (Pattern 2 of 4)



North Wind and the Sun Flannel Board (Pattern 3 of 4)

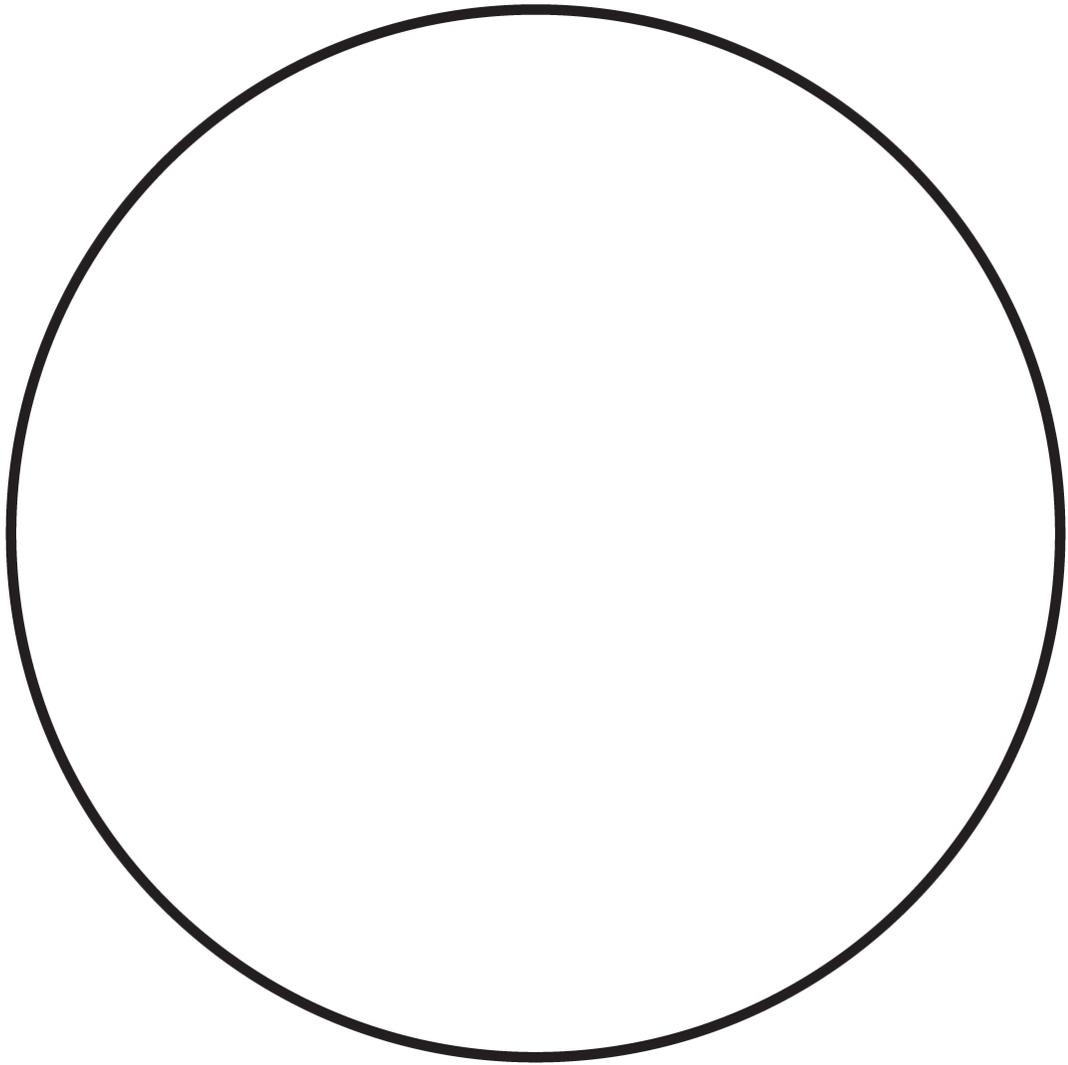


North Wind and the Sun Flannel Board (Pattern 4 of 4)

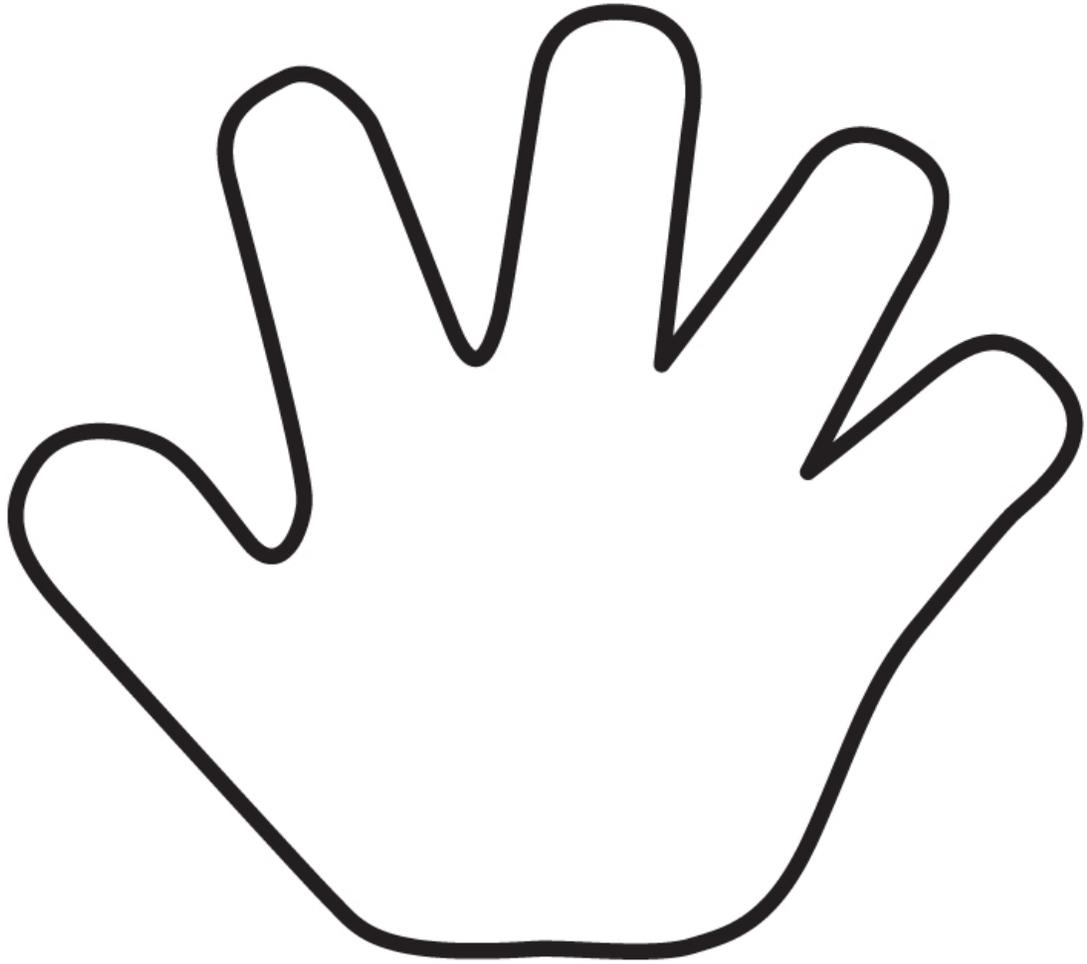


Sun

Handprint Sun (Pattern 1 of 2)



Handprint Sun (Pattern 2 of 2)



Texas Treasures: Books and Libraries

Books to Share

Beverly Billingsly Borrows a Book by Alexander Stadler.

Book! Book! Book! by Deborah Bruss.

Lewis the Librarian by Charnan Simon.

Lola at the Library by Anna McQuinn.

Mind Your Manners, B.B. Wolf by Judy Sierra.

Wild About Books by Judy Sierra.

Nametag

Open Book Nametag

Make nametags shaped like open books using the [pattern](#) provided.

Rhymes and Poetry

Here is My Book

Recite the rhyme, "Here is My Book" at the *The Best Kids Book Site* at www.thebestkidsbooksite.com/funfingerplay.cfm?fingerplayid=322.

I'm a Little Book

(Adapted by Heather Coleson and Krystale Garrett. Sing to the tune of "I'm a Little Teapot.")

I'm a little book,

Open me wide. *(make a hand motion like opening a book)*

I have lots of great things

Just inside. *(point to tummy)*

If you want to take me home, *(place imaginary book under arm and march in place)*

Just hold me tight,

Then put me on your library card, *(take imaginary library card out of pocket)*

And read me tonight! *(fold hands and lean head going to sleep)*

Recite "Books" on P. 83-83 in *A Storytime Year* by Susan Dailey.

Recite "Five Little Books" on P.96 in *Storytimes...Plus!* by Kay Lincycomb.

Songs

Old Miss _____ (add your name here) Had a Library.

(Adapted by Heather Coleson and Krystale Garrett. Sing to the tune of "Old MacDonald." Sing the verses below, then ask the kids if they can think of any other things that are at the library and insert them appropriately.)

Old Miss/Mr _____ (add your name here) had a Library

SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH

And in her library she had some children.

SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH

With a hi, hi here and a hi, hi, there. (wave hello)

Here a hi, there a hi, everywhere a hi, hi. (wave hello)

Old Miss _____ had a Library

SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH

Old Miss/Mr _____ (add your name here) had a Library

SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH

And in her library she had some books.

SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH

With a book, book, here and a book, book, there. (point around the room)

Here a book, there a book, everywhere a book, book. (point around the room)

Old Miss _____ had a Library

SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH

Old Miss/Mr _____ (add your name here) had a Library

SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH

And in her library she had some computers.

SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH

With a click, click, here and a click, click, there. (pretend to type on computers)

Here a click, there a click, everywhere a click, click. (pretend to type on computers)

Old Miss _____ had a Library

SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH

Old Miss/Mr _____ (add your name here) had a Library

SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH

And in her library she had some movies.

SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH

With a movie here and a movie there. (point around the room)

Here a movie, there a movie, everywhere a movie. (point around the room)

Old Miss _____ had a Library

SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH

Old Miss/Mr _____ (add your name here) had a Library

SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH

And in her library she had some children.

SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH

With a bye, bye here and a bye, bye there. (wave goodbye)

Here a bye, there a bye, everywhere a bye, bye. (wave goodbye)

Old Miss _____ had a Library

SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH-SHH

Recite "Story Hour" from *The Best Kids Book Site* at www.thebestkidsbooksite.com/funfingerplay.cfm?fingerplayid=193.

Sing "I Wish I Were a Librarian", to the tune of "The Mulberry Bush", from *Jean Warren's Preschool Express* at

www.preschoolexpress.com/theme_station06/oct06_librarian.shtml

Sing "Over the Street and Through the Town" on P. 64 in *Toddle On Over* by Robin Davis.

Sing "We go to Storytime" on P. 95 in *Storytimes...Plus!* by Kay Lincycomb.

Puppet Shows

Perform "Fox Learns a Lesson" on P. 144-148 in *One-Person Puppet Plays* by Denise Wright.

Stories

Tell "Checking Out the Library" on P. 87-88 in *A Storytime Year* by Susan Dailey. Modify the story to describe your library.

Crafts

Fun Foam Book Marks

Materials

- Sheets of fun foam
- Fun foam assorted symbols and letters
- Glue

Directions

Cut 4 x 8 inch rectangles out of the fun foam sheets. Let the children decorate the rectangles with fun foam assorted symbols or letters.



Bookworm Bookmarks

Materials

- Cardstock
- Pom poms
- Wiggle eyes
- Crayons or markers
- Glue

Directions

Trace a bookworm on cardstock and cut it out, using the [pattern](#) provided. Let the children glue a pom pom to the top of the bookworm for a head, and glue two

wiggle eyes onto the pom pom. For a finishing touch, have the children color the body of the bookworm with crayons or markers.



Games and Activities

Library Scavenger Hunt

Conduct a library scavenger hunt to help the children get to know the library better. Most preschool age children cannot read, so take pictures of about four to eight well known areas of the library. Place one letter of the name of a well-known children's book character, such as Arthur or Maisy, in each area of the library. Give the parents and children a paper with the pictures on it. Explain to the parents that a letter is located somewhere on or nearby the area in the picture, and ask them to write down the letters to discover the name of a well-known children's book character.

Guest Speakers

Rent a book character costume from a local costume shop or from *Costume Specialists* at

www.costumespecialists.com/childrens_book_characters.html#. Have the character visit the children at the end of storytime.

Books to Display or Booktalk

Library Lion by Michelle Knudsen.

Library Mouse by Daniel Kirk.

The Little Red Fish by Tae-Eun Yoo.

"Mr. Wiggle Series" by Carol Thompson.

A Visit to the Public Library by B.A. Hoena.

When the Library Lights Go Out by Megan McDonald.

Bulletin Board

Book It To Your Library

Cover your bulletin board in light blue paper. Make a palm tree, similar to the tree in *Chicka, Chicka, Boom Boom* by Bill Martin. Place the letters coming down off of the tree as in the book. Or, create a scene from another popular book.

Display

Put together a display on the proper way to care for books. Include children's books that have been damaged in various ways, such as water damaged, chewed, colored on, and torn books. Next to the damaged book, add hints on proper care. For example, next to the water-damaged book, add signs that say, "Never read while in the bathtub or swimming pool" and "Keep your books out of the rain." Next to the chewed book, add a sign that says, "Do not let your puppy read your book!" Include similar hints next to all of the damaged books.

For a second display, include a book that has had its pages dog-eared. Add a sign that stresses using a proper bookmark. Display improper bookmarks such as a slice of bacon, a dirty tissue, or anything else that might damage the book, along with items that readers would not want to leave in a library book accidentally, such as money or a birth certificate.

Decorations

Decorate your children's room with posters with well-known characters from children's books. You may order posters from *Demco* at www.demco.com and the *ALA Store* at www.alastore.ala.org.

Incentives

Give the children bookmarks featuring popular book characters such as Arthur, Garfield, etc. Bookmarks may be purchased from *Demco* at

www.demco.com and the *ALA Store* at www.alastore.ala.org.

Refreshments

Serve gummi "bookworms."

Audio Recordings

"These Are My Glasses" on *Whaddaya Think of That?* By Laurie Berkner.

Videos/DVD's/Films

My Community: Library. (15 minutes)

Web Sites

Talk about your library's web site and what it has for children.

Multnomah County Library

www.multcolib.org/kids/linksyng.html

This is a great web site for children with many helpful links. This link features resources for preschoolers and kindergartners.

International Children's Digital Library

www.icdlbooks.org/index.shtml

This is a digital library of children's books from around the world. The books are in full color, in numerous languages, and for children ages 3 to 13.

Starfall

www.starfall.com

This web site is designed for beginning readers through second grade. There are four main sections: "ABCs", "Learn to Read", "It's Fun to Read", and "I'm Reading."

Professional Resources

One-Person Puppet Plays by Denise Wright.

A Storytime Year: A Month-to-Month Kit for Preschool Programming by Susan Dailey.

Storytimes...Plus! by Kay Lincycomb.

Toddle on Over by Robin Davis.

The ALA Store

www.alastore.org

You may purchase library promotional materials from the *ALA Store*.

The Best Kids Book Site

www.thebestkidsbooksite.com

Storytime ideas, books, crafts and fingerplays are available on this web site.

Costume Specialists

www.costumespecialists.com/childrens_book_characters.html

Character costumes can be rented fairly inexpensively from this web site. You might even consider splitting the cost with a neighboring library.

Demco

www.demco.com

You may purchase library materials and library promotional materials from this company. It is a great place to find character bookmarks and puppets.

Jean Warren's Preschool Express

www.preschoolexpress.com

Toddler and Preschool storytime activities, songs, crafts and patterns. The pattern section is useful when trying to make nametags.

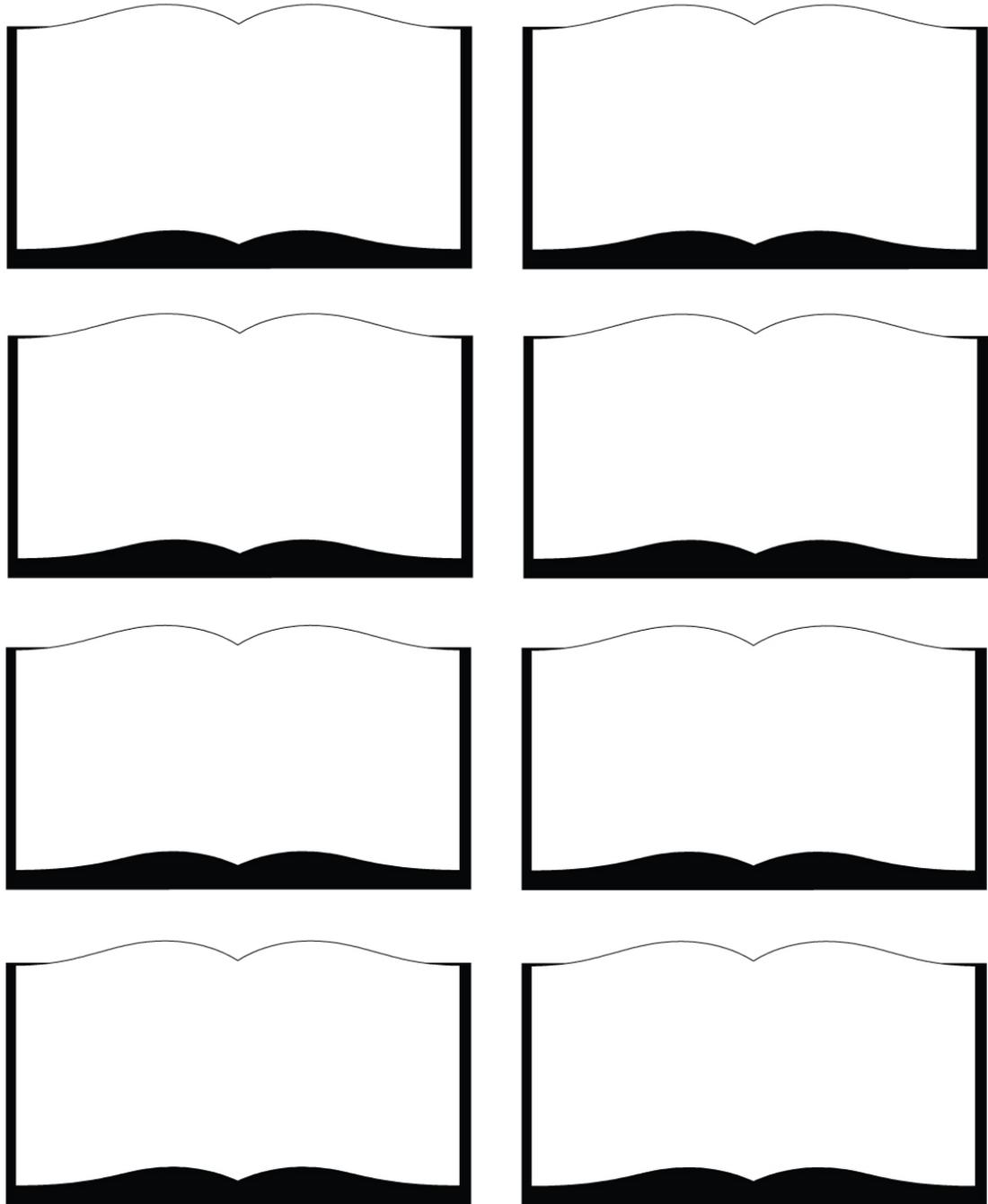
Multnomah County Library

www.multcolib.org

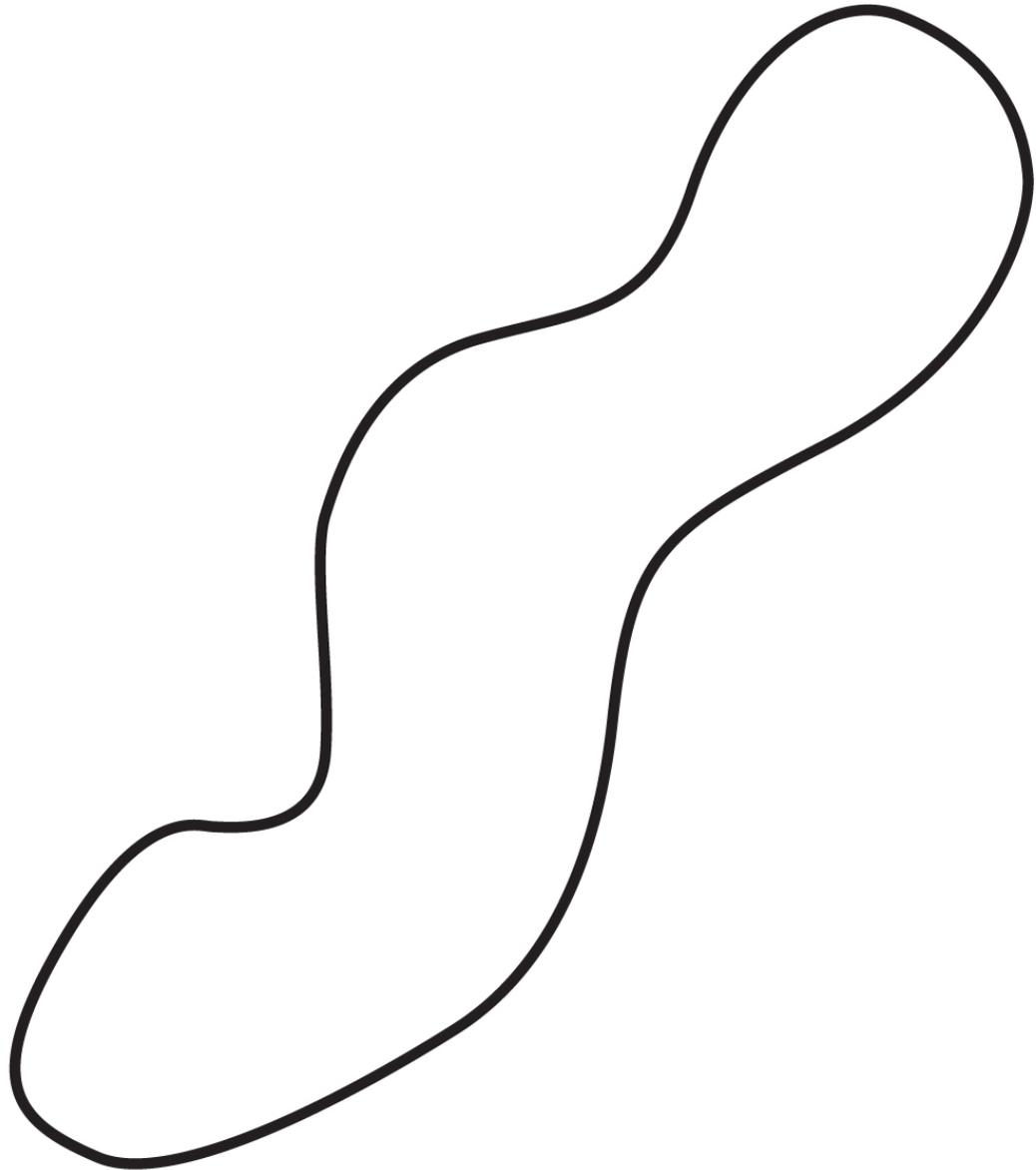
Lots of good resources for librarians, parents, children, and teens.

Craft Materials

Open Book Nametags



Bookworm Bookmark



Camping Under the Stars

Books to Share

Bailey Goes Camping by Kevin Henkes.

A Camping Spree with Mr. Magee by Chris Van Dusen.

Maisy Goes Camping by Lucy Cousins.

Monk Camps Out by Emily McCully.

Otto Goes to Camp by Todd Parr.

Quiet Night by Marilyn Singer.

Nametag

Backpack

Make backpack nametags using the [pattern](#) provided. Or, use the tree pattern from Jean Warren's *Preschool Express* at www.preschoolexpress.com/pattern_station02/tree_patterns.pdf.

Songs

This Camp is My Camp, This Camp is Your Camp

(Adapted by Krystale Garrett. Sing to the tune of "This Land is My Land.")

This camp is my camp,
This camp is your camp.

We can go hiking
Then maybe biking.

We can go fishing,
See fish so squishy.

This camp was made for you and me.

Sing "A Camping We Will Go" from Jean Warren's *Preschool Express* at www.preschoolexpress.com/theme_station06/aug06_camping.shtml, to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell."

Sing "Cooking Marshmallows" and "I'm Going Camping" from Jean Warren's *Preschool Express* at www.preschoolexpress.com/theme_station06/aug06_camping.shtml, to the tune of "The Hokey Pokey."

Sing "Yeah Rah, Camp" on P. 157-158 in *A Storytime Year* by Susan Dailey.

Stories

Tell "Adam Alan's Camping Trip" on P. 160-163 in *A Storytime Year* by Susan Dailey. This is an interactive story that has the children make sounds when the storyteller says a specific word. The author includes patterns for picture cards that the storyteller can hold up when it is time for the children to make a sound.

Tell "The Chicken in the Library" at www.ultimatecampresource.com/site/camp-activity/the-chicken-in-the-library.html.

Crafts

Paper Bag Backpack

Visit *Danielle's Place* at www.daniellesplace.com/html/backtoschoolcrafts.html for instructions on how to make this craft.

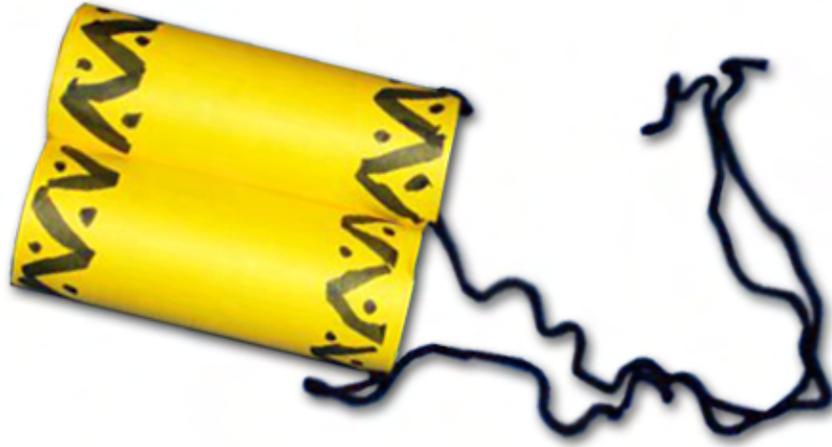
Binoculars

Materials

- Two toilet paper rolls
- Construction or copy paper
- Glue sticks or liquid glue
- Scotch tape
- String
- Hole punch

Directions

Before the program, cut pieces of colored paper to fit around the toilet paper tubes, and cut pieces of string approximately 15-24 inches long. Give each child two toilet paper tubes, two sheets of pre-cut paper, and two pieces of string. The children glue the colored paper around the toilet paper tubes and tape the two tubes together. Punch one hole on the outside edge of each tube and tie the string in the holes. The children can hang the binoculars to wear around their necks.



Games and Activities

What Would You Pack?

Talk about the kinds of things campers use on camping trips. Hold up photos of camping items, pictures such as those in those [included at the end of this program](#), or pictures from magazines. Ask the children if they would take them on a camping trip or not.

Bring a backpack. Bring items you might bring camping and items better left at home. Ask the children help you select which items to put in the backpack.

Jean Warren's *Preschool Express* has lots of cute camping games to play. See www.preschoolexpress.com/theme_station06/aug06_camping.shtml for directions for playing "Hungry Bear", "Owl Search", "Peanut Toss", "Fishing Game", and "Flashlight Pictures."

Play "Camping Bingo." Reproducible cards can be found at *Making Friends* at www.makingfriends.com/scouts/camping_bingo.htm. Choose from 12 printable cards.

Books to Display or Booktalk

Babar's Rescue by Laurent Brunhoff.

Bear Hug by Laurence Pringle.

Camping by Nancy Hundal.

Follow the Trail by Jessica Loy.

Frank and Izzy Set Sail by Laura Kvasnosky.

Let's Go Camping by Jan Mader.

Oh Yeah! by Tom Birdseye.

Bulletin Board

Come Camp Out With Us!

Make campfire logs from brown construction paper, and make flames from red, yellow and orange tissue paper.

Display

Display items you would take camping, such as a backpack, flashlight, canteen, etc. Add books about camping, cooking camp food, and hiking. Ask your local Boy Scout troop for items to display.

Decorations

Build a fake campfire in the center of the room. Use real logs or logs made by wrapping log-shaped objects in brown paper. Add orange and red tissue paper to make the flames. Sit around the "campfire" with the children during storytime.

Refreshments

Serve graham crackers, individual mini marshmallows, and individual mini Hershey® bars.

Guest Speakers

Invite a representative from your local zoo, state park, or nature refuge to talk about Texas wildlife. They might be able to bring an animal with them.

Ask your local Boy Scout troop to talk about Boy Scouts and camping.

Audio Recordings

"Cows" on *Dance Party* by The Wiggles.

"I'm a Cow" on *Dance Party* by The Wiggles.

Videos/DVD's/Films

Kidsongs: Day at Camp. (30 minutes)

Sing Along Songs-Campout. (30 minutes)

Web Sites

Go Camping America Kids Pages

www.gocampingamerica.com/kidspages/index.aspx

This web site provides information for kids about camping. It includes games to play in the car, safety tips, first aid, and information on plants, bugs, and animals, as well as recipes. It also includes information on the 50 states.

Professional Resources

A Storytime Year: A Month-to-Month Kit for Preschool Programming by Susan Dailey.

The Best Kids Book Site

www.thebestkidsbooksite.com

Storytime ideas, books, crafts, and fingerplays are available on this web site.

Danielle's Place

www.daniellesplace.com

This web site contains instructions and samples of high quality crafts for educators. Selected crafts on site are free, while others require a paid membership.

Jean Warren's Preschool Express

www.preschoolexpress.com

This site includes toddler and preschool storytime activities, songs, crafts, and patterns. The pattern section is useful for making nametags.

Making Friends

www.makingfriends.com

This web site contains instructions and ideas for making crafts on numerous themes. Most of the crafts are free and have printable patterns, others have kits that must be purchased.

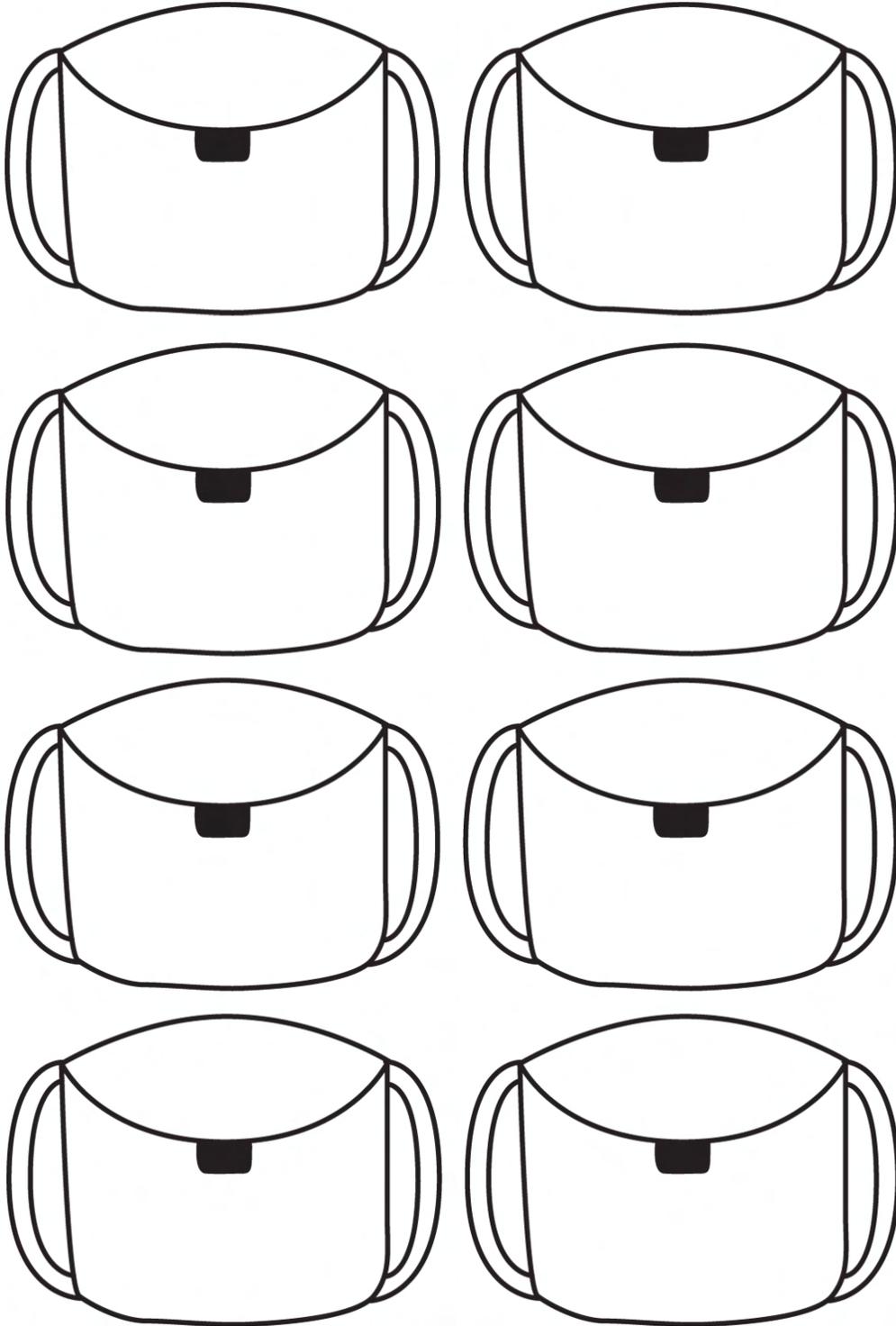
Oriental Trading Company

www.orientaltrading.com

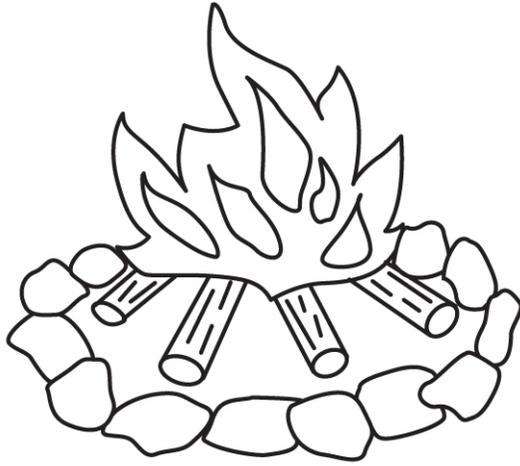
Craft supplies, craft kits, party supplies, and small inexpensive incentives are all available from this web site.

Craft Materials

Backpack Nametag



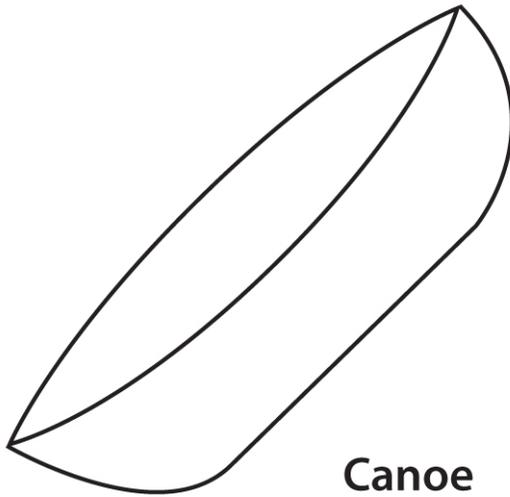
What Would You Pack?



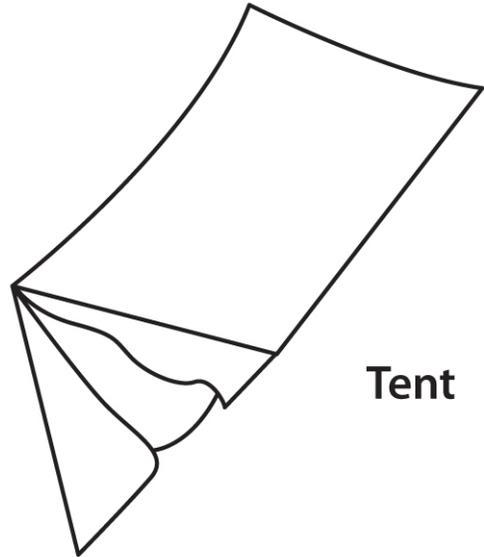
Campfire



Flashlight



Canoe



Tent

Cowboys and Cowgirls

Books to Share

Cowboy Baby by Sue Heap.

Cowboy Ned and Andy by David Stein.

Cowgirl Rosie and Her Five Baby Bison by Stephen Gulbis.

Cowpokes by Caroline Stutson.

I Want to Be a Cowgirl by Jeanne Willis.

A Wild Cowboy by Dana Smith.

Nametag

Cowboy Hat and Sheriff's Badge

Make cowboy hat nametags from a die cut from *Accucut* at www.accucut.com/HatCowboy_1-p645c107-path0.html. Or, use the [patterns](#) provided in this chapter.

Rhymes and Poetry

Recite, "I'm a Little Cowboy," at <http://stepbystepcc.com/wildwest.html>.

Recite "Cowboy Hats" from Jean Warren's *Preschool Express* at www.preschoolexpress.com/story_station01/story_station2_nov01.shtml.

Songs

If You're a Cowboy

(Adapted by Heather Coleson. Sing to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It.")

If you're a cowboy and you know it say,
"Yee-HAW!"

If you're a cowboy and you know it say,
"Yee-HAW!"

If you're a cowboy and you know it and
you really want to show it,

If you're a cowboy and you know it say,
"Yee-HAW!"

If you're a cowboy and you know it ride
your horse, "Giddy-Up" "Giddy-Up"

If you're a cowboy and you know it ride
your horse, "Giddy-Up" "Giddy-Up"

If you're a cowboy and you know it and you really want to show it,

If you're a cowboy and you know it ride your horse, "Giddy-Up" "Giddy-Up"

If you're a cowboy and you know it rope a cow,

(wave imaginary lasso overhead and throw)

If you're a cowboy and you know it rope a cow,

(wave imaginary lasso overhead and throw)

If you're a cowboy and you know it and you really want to show it,

If you're a cowboy and you know it rope a cow,

(wave imaginary lasso overhead and throw)

If you're a cowboy and you know it do all three, "Yee-HAW", "Giddy-Up", "Rope a Cow."

If you're a cowboy and you know it do all three, "Yee-HAW", "Giddy-Up", "Rope a Cow."

If you're a cowboy and you know it and you really want to show it,

If you're a cowboy and you know it do all three, "Yee-HAW", "Giddy-Up", "Rope a Cow."

Stories

Tell and act out "Going on a Trail Ride" on P. 99-100 in *The Complete Book of Activities, Games, Stories, Props, Recipes, and Dances for Young Children* by Pam Schiller and Jackie Silberg. This is similar to "Going on a Bear Hunt", except the children pretend to be cowboys and cowgirls on a trail ride.

Tell "The Cowboy Who Cried Coyote" by Gayle A. Travis from *Read Across Texas*, the 2002 Texas Reading Club manual at www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/2002/manual/scripts/criedcoyote.html.

Crafts

Cowboy Vests

Make cowboy vests out of grocery sacks. See instructions on Jean Warren's *Preschool Express* web site at www.preschoolexpress.com/theme_station07/out_west_jul07.shtml.

Cowboy Friends

Make cowboy paper dolls. Instructions and printable patterns are available at *Making Friends* www.makingfriends.com/friends/f+cowboy.htm.

Put a Cowboy Together

Materials

2009 Texas Reading Club Manual

Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!

Published by the Library Development Division of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Austin, Texas 2009.

- Copies of the [cowboy pattern](#)
- Glue
- Scissors
- Colored construction paper

Directions

Copy the cowboy pattern pieces from *Read Across Texas!* the 2002 Texas Reading Club manual, at www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/2002/manual/images/preschool/cowboypuppet.jpg. Cut out all the shapes. Let an adult help the children glue them onto a piece of construction paper to make a cowboy.

Games and Activities

Animal Round Up

Tape pictures of a cow, horse, pig, sheep, and other barnyard animals to chairs. Set up the chairs around the room, with space between them. Let the children use a Hula Hoop® to “lasso” the animals.

Guest Speakers

Invite someone from your local rodeo, or a rodeo clown, to talk to the kids.

Books to Display or Booktalk

Cowboy by David Murdoch.

The Gingerbread Cowboy by Janet Squires.

I Want to Be A Cowboy by Dan Liebeman.

Ranch by Roxie Munro.

Rodeo Ron and His Milkshake Cows by Rowan Clifford.

The Toughest Cowboys or How the Wild West Was Tamed by John Frank.

Waynetta and the Cornstalk by Helen Ketteman.

Bulletin Board

Lasso a Good Book

Decorate your bulletin board with a desert scene with tumbleweeds and cacti. Add a cowboy riding a horse. Use a rope to create a lasso. Put the title of your board inside the lasso circle.

Display

Collect cowboy memorabilia from staff and the public. Add books photos, and realia of horses, cowboys, boots, and other western objects. Ask your local rodeo or museum if they have any items for display.

Decorations

Decorate the outside of your storytime room to look like a barn. Add hay bales inside the room and decorate the walls with farm animals.

Refreshments

Serve individual bags of trail mix and apple juice.

Audio Recordings

"Ponies" on *Yummy Yummy* by The Wiggles.

Videos/DVD's/Films

All About Cowboys for Kids. (45 minutes)

All About Cowboys for Kids Part II. (45 minutes)

Meanwhile Back at the Ranch. (30 minutes)

Tall Tales and Legends: Pecos Bill. (23 minutes)

Web Sites

Rodeo for Kids of All Ages

<http://library.thinkquest.org/05aug/01992/index.htm>

This web site from the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo is designed to let children know what it is like to go to a rodeo. It includes pictures of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, links to the information on the history of rodeos, cowboys, cowgirls, rodeo clowns, animals, jokes and riddles, games, and book recommendations. This web site is a great starting place for children who want to learn more about cowboys and rodeos.

Professional Resources

The Complete Book of Activities, Games, Stories, Props, Recipes, and Dances for Young Children by Pam Schiller and Jackie Silberg.

Accucut

www.accucut.com

You may purchase dies, die-cut machines and laminators from this web site.

Jean Warren's Preschool Express

www.preschoolexpress.com

This web site features Toddler and Preschool storytime activities, songs, crafts and patterns. The pattern section is useful for making nametags.

Making Friends

www.makingfriends.com

This web site contains instructions and ideas for making crafts on numerous themes. Most of the crafts are free and have printable patterns, others have kits that must be purchased.

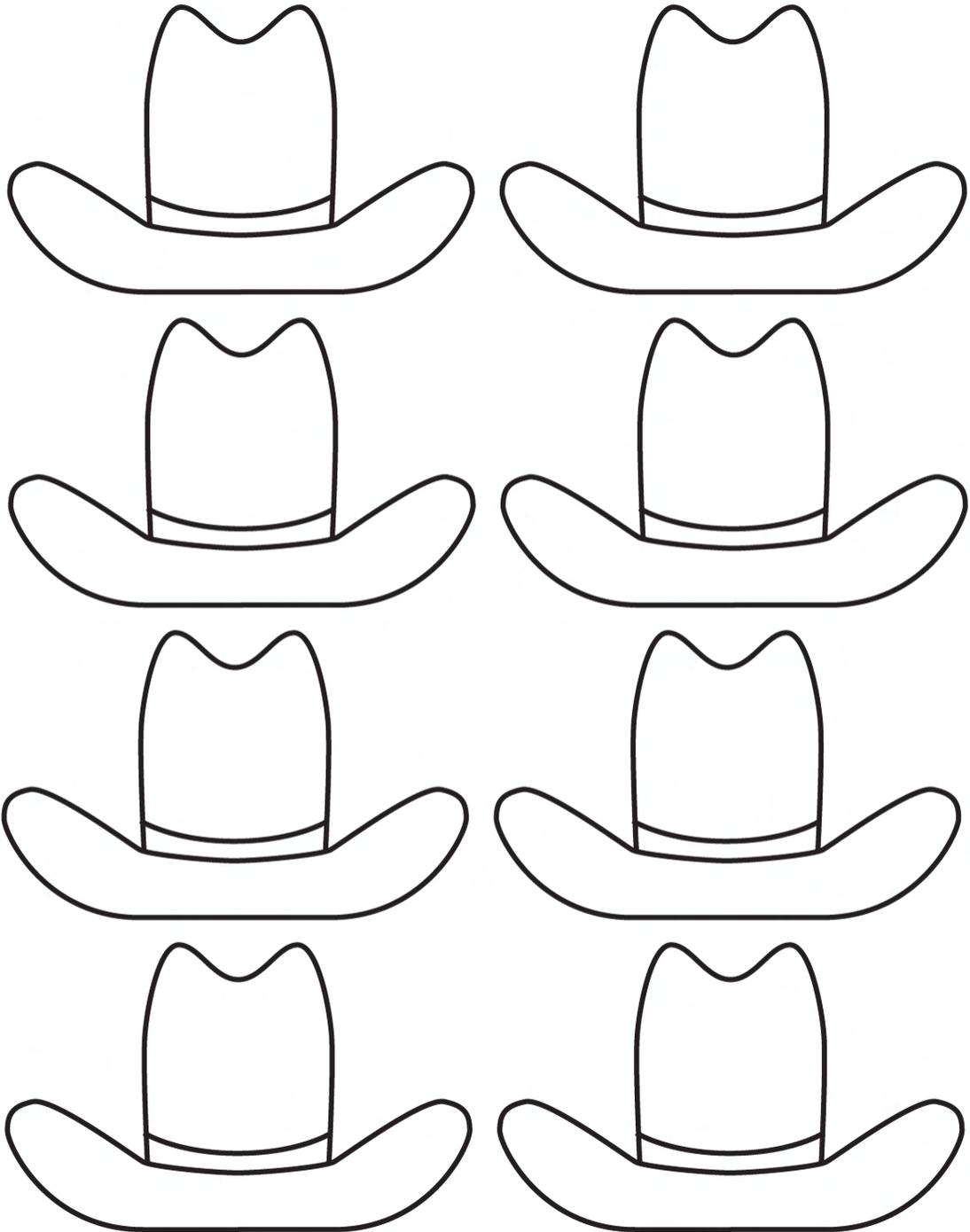
Oriental Trading Company

www.orientaltrading.com

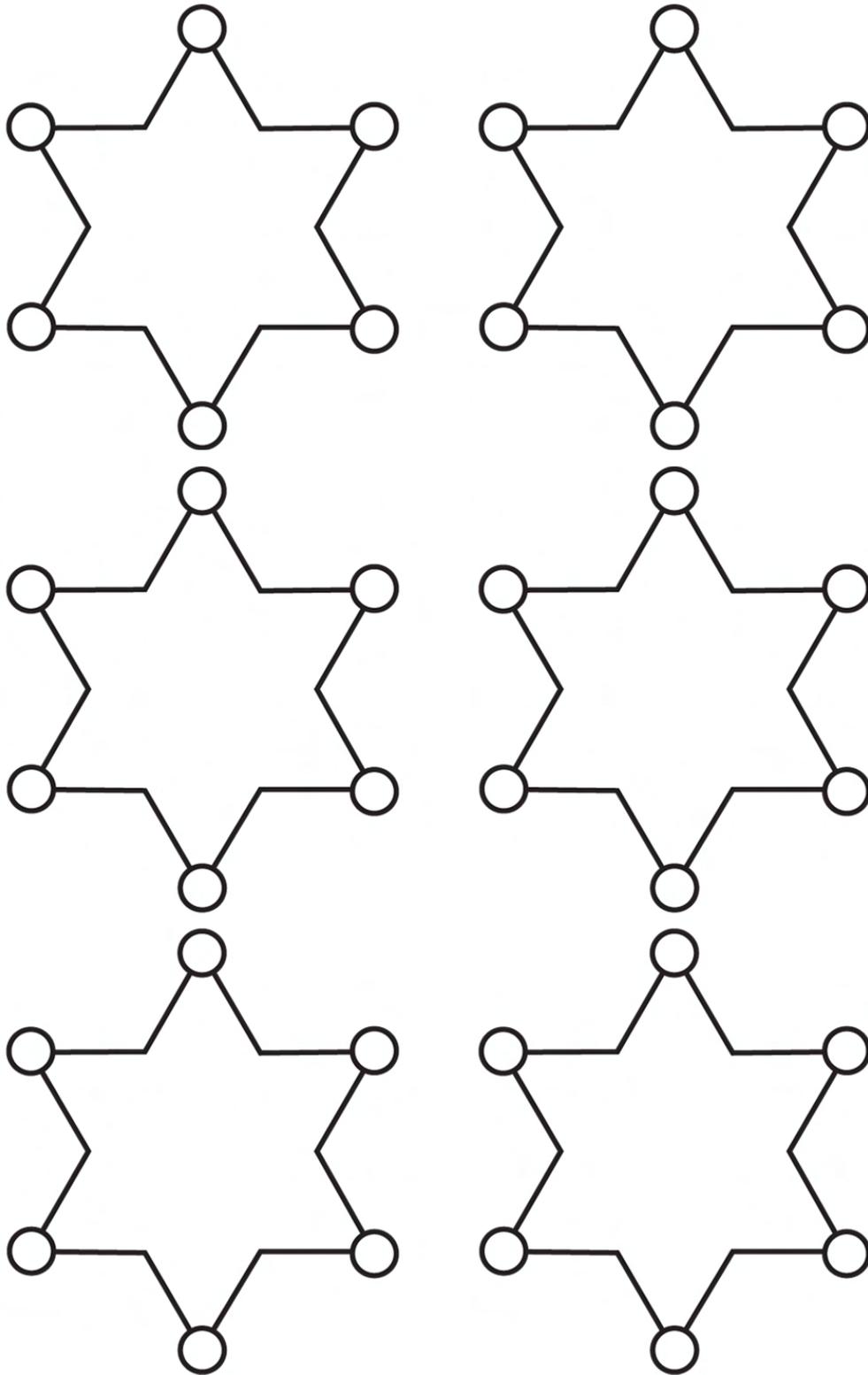
Craft supplies, craft kits, party supplies, and small inexpensive incentives are all available from this web site.

Craft Materials

Cowboy Hat Nametags



Sheriff's Badge Nametags



Cowboys and Cowgirls Need Cows!

Books to Share

Click, Clack, Moo Cows that Type by Doreen Cronin.

The Cow that Went Oink by Bernard Most.

Millie in the Meadow by Janet Pederson.

Mrs. O'Leary's Cow by Mary Ann Hoberman.

Mrs. Wishy-Washy's Farm by Joy Cowley.

Nametag

Create cow nametags using the Accucut die cut at www.accucut.com/Cow_1-p2046c49-path0.html or from the cow patterns from *The Best Kids Book Site* at www.thebestkidsbooksite.com/crafttemp/cowsinfield.pdf.

Rhymes and Poetry

Recite "This Little Cow" from the *Kididdles* web site at www.kididdles.com/lyrics/t059.html.

Recite "Here is the Barn" from the *Michigan Reads* web site at www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17447_26038_31186-83119--,00.html. It is similar to the fingerplay, "Here is the church, here is the steeple."

Songs

Sing "The Bell on the Cow" on P. 40 of *Storytime Crafts* by Kathryn Totten.

Old MacDonald Had a Farm



Sing "Old MacDonald Had a Farm" using visual props. Use the [barn pattern](#) provided at the end of this program to create a large barn on poster board or cardstock, and attach it to a shoebox. Print enough of the [chicken](#), [cow](#), [sheep](#), and [pig](#) patterns also provided at the end of this program onto cardstock for each child to have one. Attach the cardstock animals to popsicles sticks. As you sing, *Old Mac Donald Had a Farm*, the children hold up the appropriate animal in each verse. After you finish the song, the children bring up the animals and put them to sleep in the barn. More farm animal patterns are available on the *DLTK* web site at www.dltk-teach.com/books/farm/index.htm, at the bottom of the page.

Sing "The Animals on the Farm" on P. 248 of *The Big Book of Stories, Songs, And Sing-Alongs* by Beth Maddigan.

Flannel Boards

Sing "Old MacDonald Had a Farm" and use the patterns on P. 45-48 of *The Flannel Board Storytelling Book* by Judy Sierra.

Hey Diddle Diddle

(Traditional. Use the patterns on pages 21-23 of *The Flannel Board Storytelling Book* by Judy Sierra.)

Hey diddle diddle
The cat and the fiddle
The cow jumped over the moon

The little dog laughed
To see such sport
And the dish ran away with the spoon.

Crafts

The Cow That Jumped Over the Moon

Make "The Cow that Jumped Over the Moon" craft on Pages 68-69 of *The Big Book of Stories, Songs, and Sing-Alongs* by Beth Maddigan.

Paper Lunch Bag Cow Puppet

Visit *Danielle's Place* at www.daniellesplace.com/html/animal_crafts.html for instructions on how to make this craft. Templates are available at www.daniellesplace.com/images/cowpuppethead.gif and www.daniellesplace.com/images/cowfeetpat.gif. Libraries may reproduce these patterns for free.

Cow with Milk Paper Craft

Make the "Cow With Milk Paper Craft" on *DLTK's Crafts for Kids* at www.dltk-kids.com/animals/mpapermilkcow.htm.

Games and Activities

Jean Warren's *Preschool Express* has lots of games about animals. Play "Moms and Babies: Farm Animals Game" at www.preschoolexpress.com/theme_station07/the-farm-sep07.shtml and "Animal Sounds Listening Game" at www.preschoolexpress.com/theme_station07/the-farm-sep07.shtml.

Guest Speakers

Southwest Dairy Farmers

www.southwestdairyfarmers.com

The Southwest Dairy Farmers have a mobile Dairy Classroom program that is available for free if you live in certain areas. It includes a 35-40 minute oral presentation followed by a milking demonstration. They also provide printed educational materials.

Books to Display or Booktalk

Cows and Their Calves by Margaret Hall.

Milk From Cow to Carton by Ailiki.

The Milk Group by Mari Schuh.

The Milk Makers by Gail Gibbons.

Moo Who? by Margie Palatini.

Raising Cows on the Koebels' Farm by Alice Flanagan.

Sakes Alive! A Cattle Drive by Karma Wilson.

Bulletin Board

Cover your bulletin board with blue paper for the sky. Decorate the bottom half with green butcher paper for grass. Add several cows. Add one purple cow. Include the poem, "Purple Cow" by Gelett Burgess somewhere on the bulletin board. A copy of this poem is available on the *PoemHunter.com* web site at www.poemhunter.com/poem/the-purple-cow/.

Display

Display an old typewriter or word processor. Put one of the notes from the book, *Click, Clack, Moo Cows that Type* by Doreen Cronin in the typewriter. Add a few stuffed cows and other farm animals.

Decorations

Let the children color large blank cows and hang the cows around the storytime room.

Refreshments

Serve individual containers of Blue Bell chocolate and vanilla ice cream. They can usually be bought in 12 packs and come with the little individual wooden spoons. Or, serve pudding cups that do not require refrigeration.

Audio Recordings

"Cows" on *Dance Party* by The Wiggles.

"I'm a Cow" on *Dance Party* by The Wiggles.

Videos/DVD's/Films

Click, Clack, Moo Cows that Type. (10 minutes)

Serious Farm. (10 minutes)

The Cow Who Clucked. (11 minutes)

VRRROOMMM 2 Dairy Farming For Kids. (30 minutes)

Web Sites

Southwest Dairy Farmers

www.southwestdairyfarmers.com

This web site has tons of information about cows. You may book your free Mobile Dairy Classroom visit, or find coloring sheets, quizzes, lesson plans, and more.

Professional Resources

The Big Book of Stories, Songs, and Sing-Alongs by Beth Maddigan.

The Flannel Board Storytelling Book by Judy Sierra.

Storytime Crafts by Kathryn Totten.

Accucut

www.accucut.com

You may purchase dies, die-cut machines and laminators from this web site.

The Best Kids Book Site

www.thebestkidsbooksite.com

Storytime ideas, books, crafts, and fingerplays are available from this web site.

Danielle's Place

www.daniellesplace.com

This web site has a variety of high quality crafts for educators. Selected crafts on the web site are free, while others require a paid membership.

DLTK's

www.dltk-kids.com

This web site has a variety of crafts for kids, ages 2 and up.

First School

www.first-school.ws

Crafts, lesson plans, printables, and other activities for preschoolers through kindergartners are available on this web site.

Jean Warren's Preschool Express

www.preschoolexpress.com

This web site features Toddler and Preschool storytime activities, songs, crafts and patterns. The pattern section is useful for nametags.

Kididdles

www.kididdles.com

This web site includes songs and rhymes for children, most of which are in the public domain.

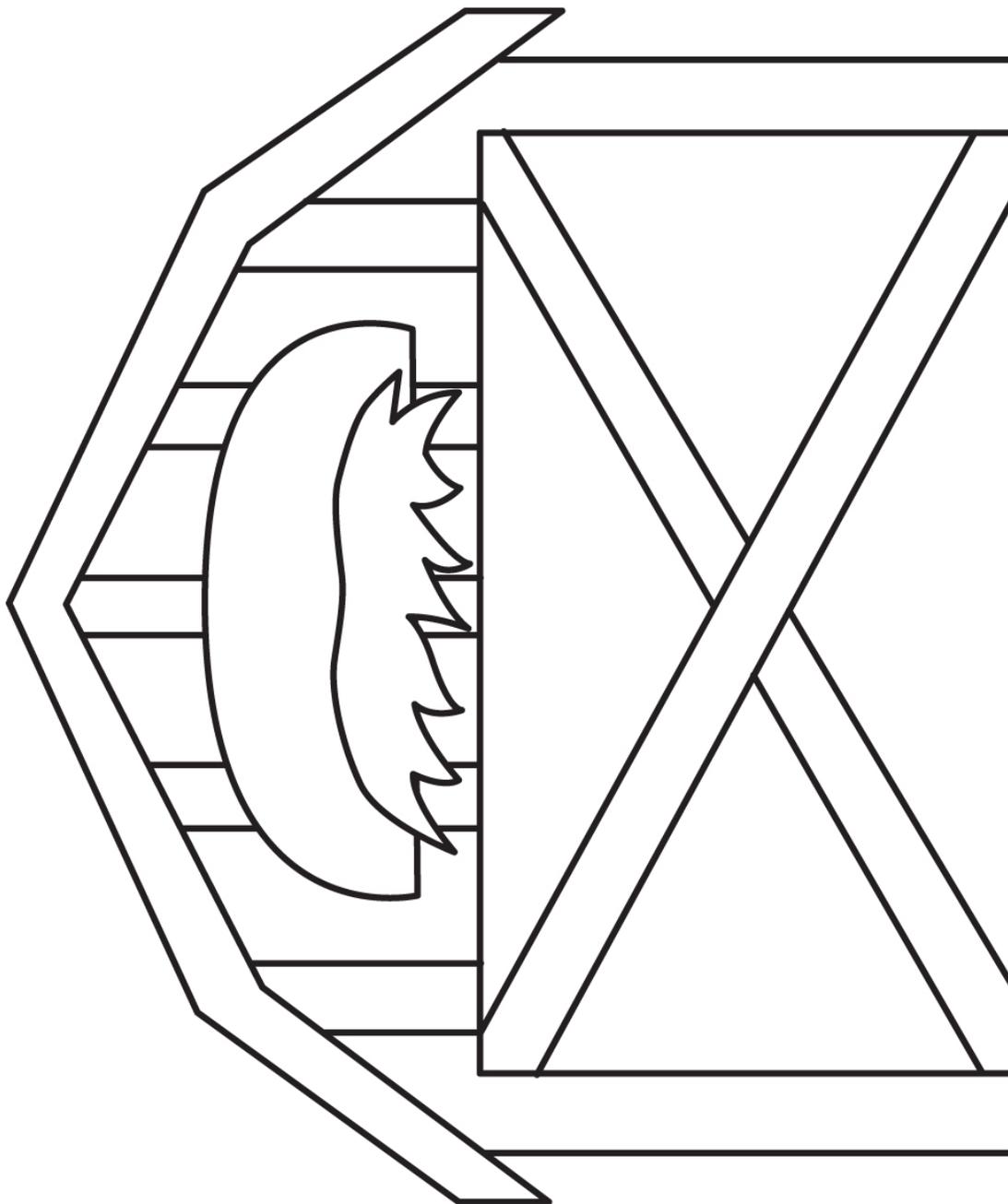
Oriental Trading Company

www.orientaltrading.com

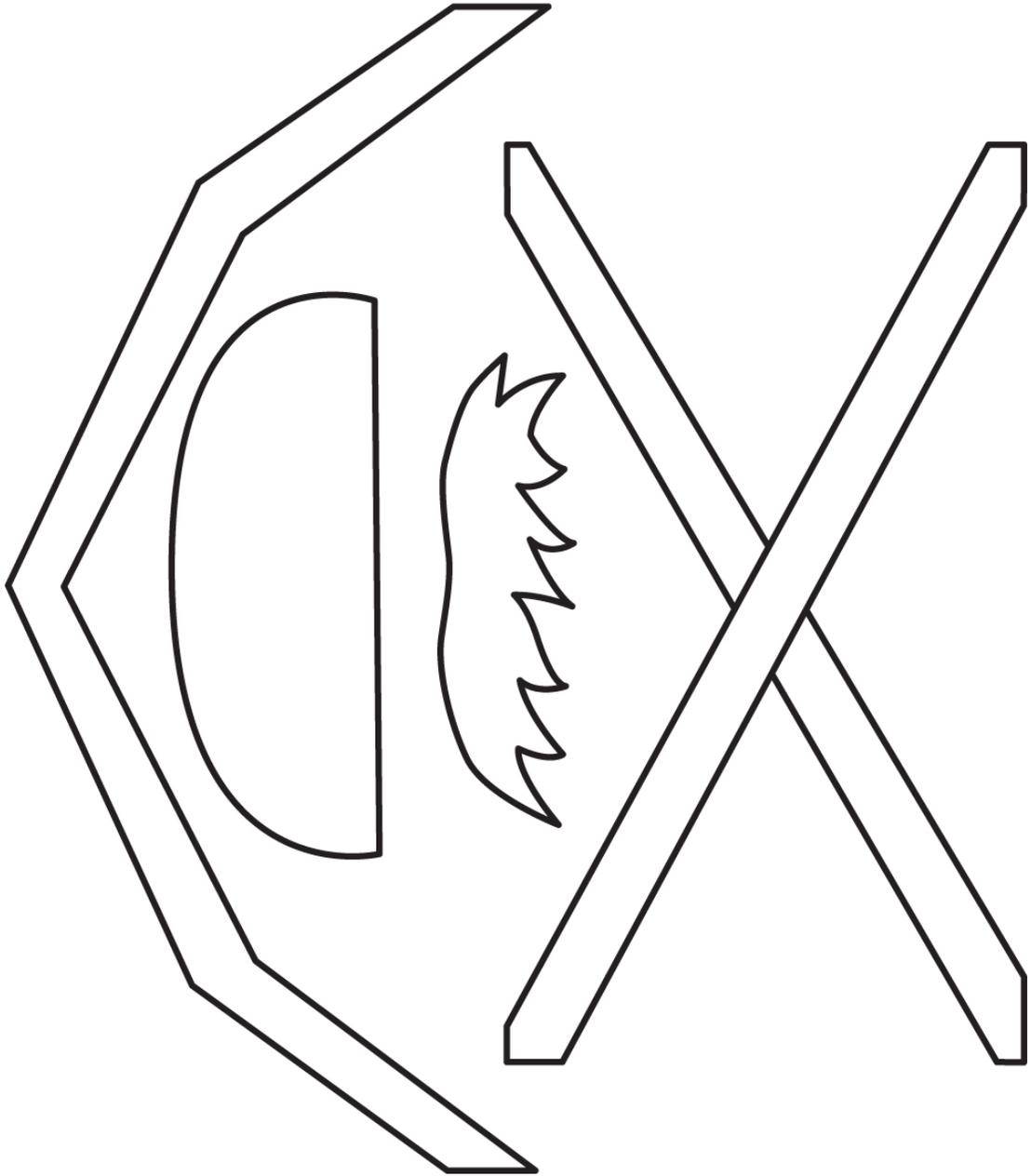
Craft supplies, craft kits, party supplies, and inexpensive incentives are available from this web site.

Craft Materials

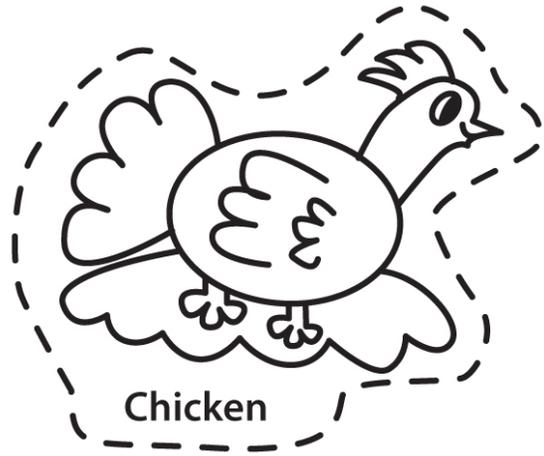
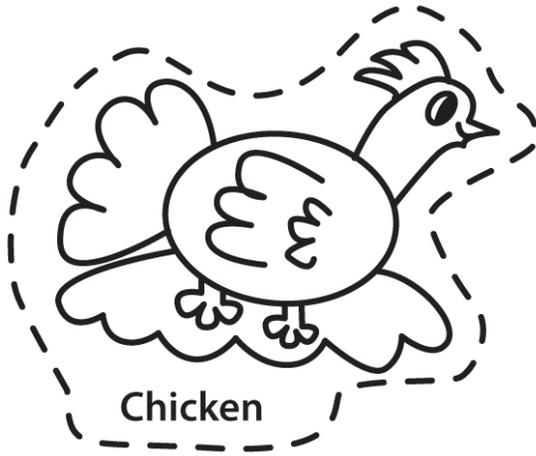
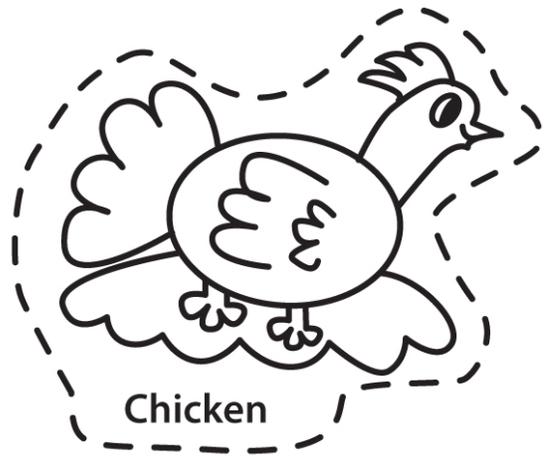
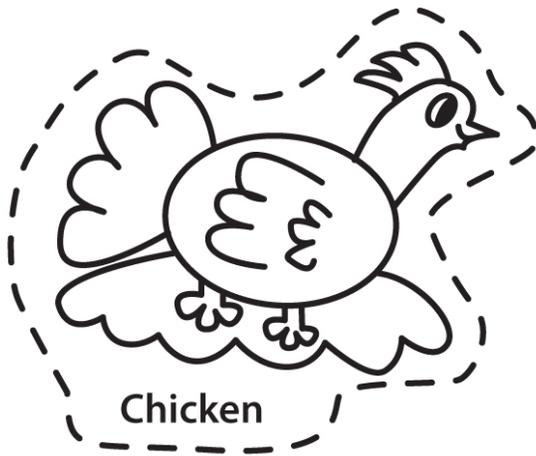
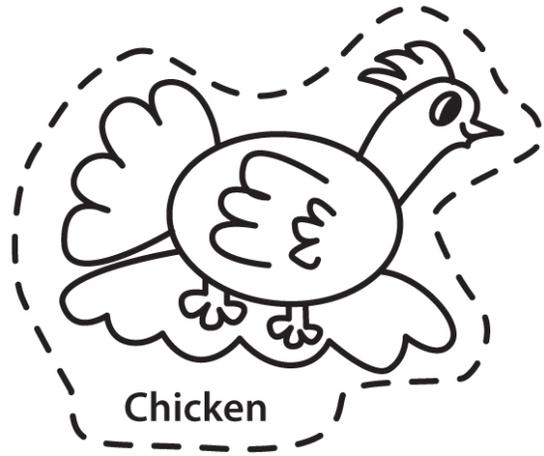
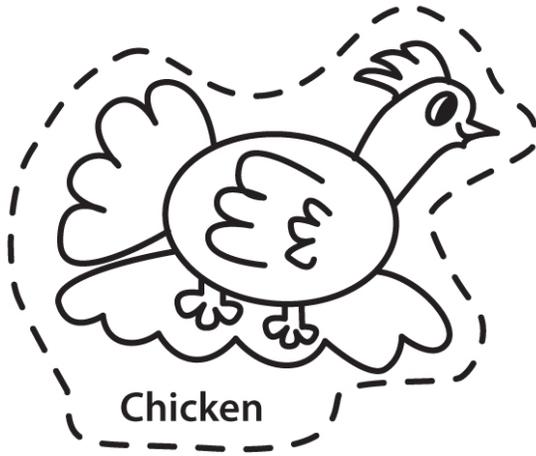
Old McDonald Had a Farm – Barn (Pattern 1 of 2)



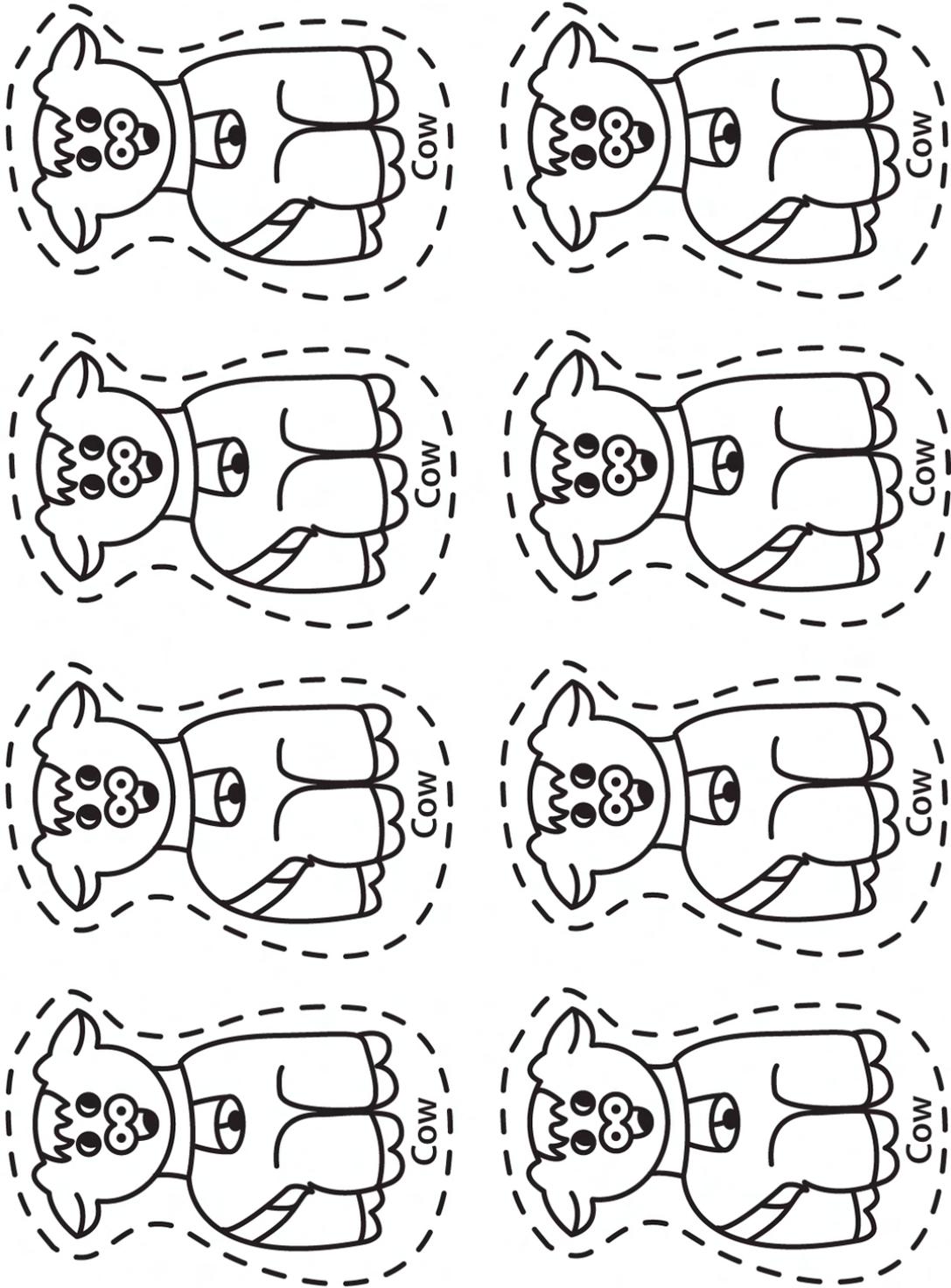
Old McDonald Had a Farm – Barn (Pattern 2 of 2)



Old McDonald Had a Farm – Chicken Pattern



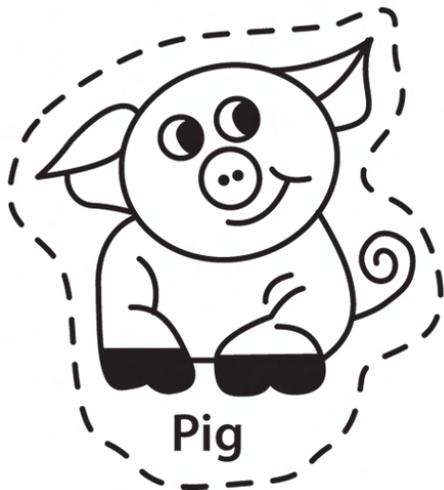
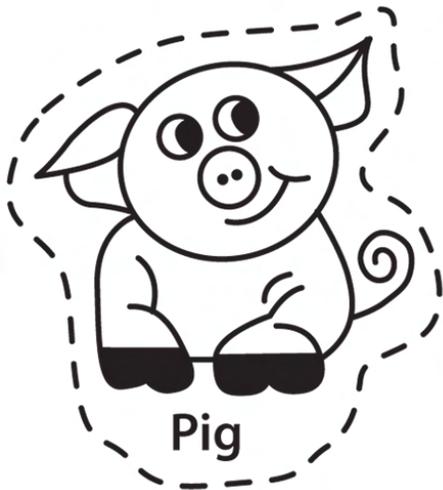
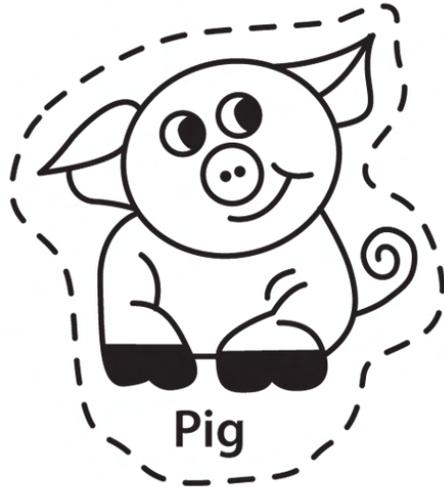
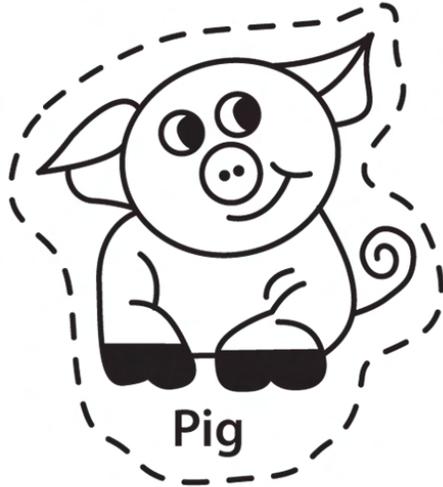
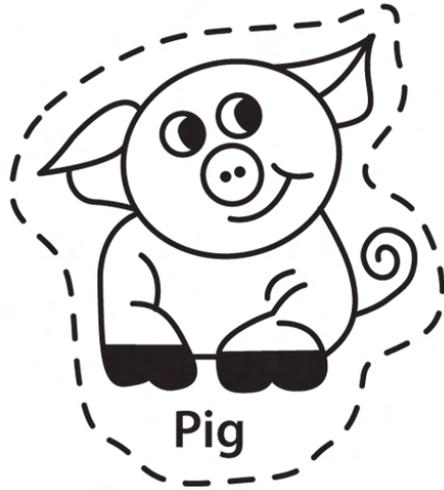
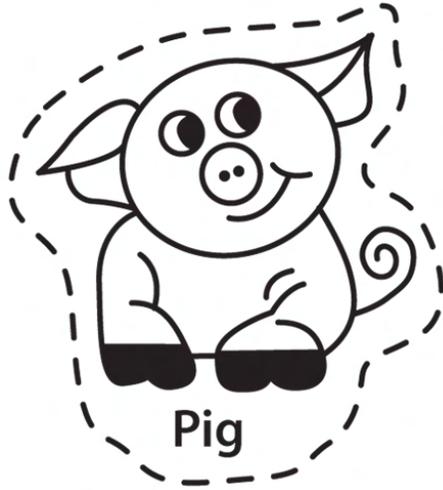
Old McDonald Had a Farm – Cow Pattern



Old McDonald Had a Farm – Sheep Pattern



Old McDonald Had a Farm – Pig Pattern



Flower Gardens

Books to Share

Flower Garden by Eve Bunting.

Miss Emma's Wild Garden by Anna Hines.

On Meadowview Street by Henry Cole.

Planting a Rainbow by Lois Ehlert.

So Happy by Kevin Henkes.

What Does Bunny See? by Linda Park.

Rhymes and Poetry

Recite "Plant the Garden" from Jean Warren's *Preschool Express* at www.preschoolexpress.com/theme_station05/apr05_garden.shtml.

Recite "Five Little Flowers" from *The Best Kids Book Site* at www.thebestkidsbooksite.com/funfingerplay.cfm?fingerplayid=90.

Mary, Mary Quite Contrary

(Traditional)

Mary, Mary quite contrary,
How does your garden grow?
With silver bells, and cockleshells,
And pretty maids all in a row.

Songs

Sing, "See the Sunflowers" to the tune of "Skip to my Lou" on Jean Warren's *Preschool Express* at www.preschoolexpress.com/theme_station02/aug02_flowers.shtml.

Sing, "The Gardner Plants the Seeds" to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell." Lyrics to this song and many other songs about flowers can be found on the *Can Teach* web site at www.canteach.ca/elementary/songspoems22.html.

Sing, "I'm a Little Flower Pot" to the tune of "I'm a Little Teapot" from *It's Storytime* at www.geocities.com/mystorytime/garden.htm#Fingerplays.

Flannel Board Stories

One Little Seed



Make a flannel board of Elaine Greenstein's book, *One Little Seed* using the [patterns](#) provided at the end of this program, and tell the story of a sunflower growing from seed to sunflower to seed again.

Stories

Tell "Grandpa's Magic Seed" in *Flannel Graphs: Flannel Board Fun for Little Ones* by Jean Stangl.

Tell "The Little Yellow Tulip" using flannel board figures of the tulip, sun, rain and clouds. The story may be found on page 43 of the *Project Gutenberg E-book of Stories to Tell Children* by Sara Bryant, at www.gutenberg.org/files/16693/16693-8.txt.

Crafts

Handprint Flowers

Materials

- Several colors of fun foam including green
- Scissors
- Glue
- Pen or marker

Directions

Give each child and parent a pre-cut 4 x 6 inch pieces of fun foam, in any color except green. The parent traces the child's hand on 4 x 6 piece of foam and then cut it out. The hand is the "flower" part of the craft. Give each child a 1/2 x 9 inch green fun foam stem and 3-4 fun foam green leaves. The children glue the handprint to the top of the 1/2 x 9 stem and glue the leaves onto the stem.



Plant Bluebonnets

Materials

- Small 2 inch terra cotta pots
- Potting soil
- Bluebonnet seeds
- Paint

2009 Texas Reading Club Manual

Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!

Published by the Library Development Division of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Austin, Texas 2009.

- Baubles

Directions

Give each child a small terra cot pot to decorate the pots with paint, jewels, buttons, or whatever else you have on hand. Fill the pot with soil. Give each child a few bluebonnet seeds to plant in the soil. Tell the children to water the soil every few days and keep them in sunlight so that the bluebonnet flowers will grow.

Games and Activities

Play the "Flower Match Up" games on Jean Warren's *Preschool Express* at www.preschoolexpress.com/theme_station02/may02_flowers.shtml.

Pattern Recognition



Using the simple [flower pattern](#) provided at the end of this program, create several felt flowers in a variety of colors. Give several flowers to each child. Make a simple pattern on the flannel board, such as blue, blue, pink, blue, blue. Ask the children to bring up the next flower in the pattern and place it on the flannel board.

Books to Display or Booktalk

The ABCs of Texas Wildflowers by Glenna Gimmer.

Bumblebee, Bumblebee, Do You Know Me? by Anne Rockwell.

Lucy's Secret by Mireille Levert.

2009 Texas Reading Club Manual

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Published by the Library Development Division of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Austin, Texas 2009.

Miss Lady Bird's Wildflowers by Kathy Appelt.

Miss Rumphius by Caroline Cooney.

One Little Seed by Elaine Greenstein.

Bulletin Board

Grow a Good Book

Print covers of flower picture books in color from *Amazon.com*. Create a garden, and insert the book covers so that they are part of the flowers, growing out of the soil. Use the [sketch provided](#) at the end of this program as a guide.

Display

Display flower books and gardening items. Include trowels, gloves, flowerpots, and other gardening implements and props, along with artificial flowers such as bluebonnets.

Decorations

Decorate your storytime room like a flower garden. Hang colorful flowers made by the children from construction paper on the walls. Add construction paper birds, grass, and a watering can.

Refreshments

Serve sunflower seeds without shells. Explain to the children how a sunflower grows and where the seeds come from. Bring some sunflowers and some seeds still in the shell to show them.

Guest Speakers

Invite someone from your local botanical gardens or gardening club to speak about growing flowers. Ask them to bring flowers with them and talk to preschoolers about simple ways to grow their own flowers at home.

Audio Recordings

"The Dancing Flowers" on *Whoo Hoo! Wiggly Gremlins* by The Wiggles.

Videos/DVD's/Films

Planting a Rainbow. (6 minutes)

Seeds! Seeds! Seeds! (15 minutes)

Web Sites

Texas Parks and Wildlife's Kids Page on Wildflowers
www.tpwd.state.tx.us/kids/wild_things/wildflowers/index.phtml

Texas Park and Wildlife has a nice page for kids on the wildflowers of Texas. There are color photos, coloring pages, and links to other information on Texas.

Professional Resources

Flannel Graphs: Flannel Board Fun for Little Ones, Preschool-Grade 3 by Jean Stangl.

The Best Kids Book Site

www.thebestkidsbooksite.com

Storytime ideas, books, crafts, and fingerplays are available on this web site.

Can Teach

www.canteach.ca/index.html

This web site contains lesson plans, recipes, songs, poems, and numerous other resources for elementary teachers.

It's Storytime!

www.geocities.com/mystorytime/

This web site includes several thematic preschool storytimes. In each, the author includes books, fingerplays, songs, flannel boards, and craft ideas.

Jean Warren's Preschool Express

www.preschoolexpress.com

This web site includes Toddler and Preschool storytime activities, songs, crafts and patterns. The pattern section is useful when trying to make nametags.

Oriental Trading Company

www.orientaltrading.com

Craft supplies, craft kits, party supplies, and inexpensive incentives are all available from this web site.

Project Gutenberg

www.projectgutenberg.org

Project Gutenberg, which began in 1971, is the largest collection of free electronic books.

Craft Materials

One Little Seed (Pattern 1 of 5)



Seed

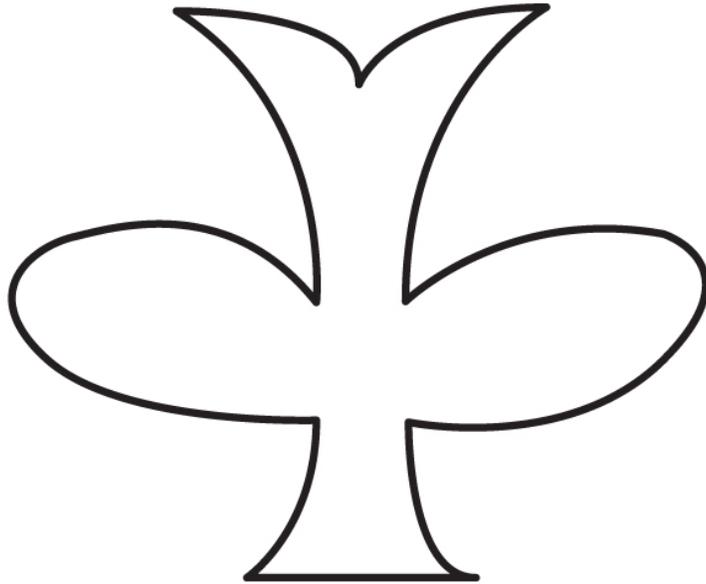


Roots

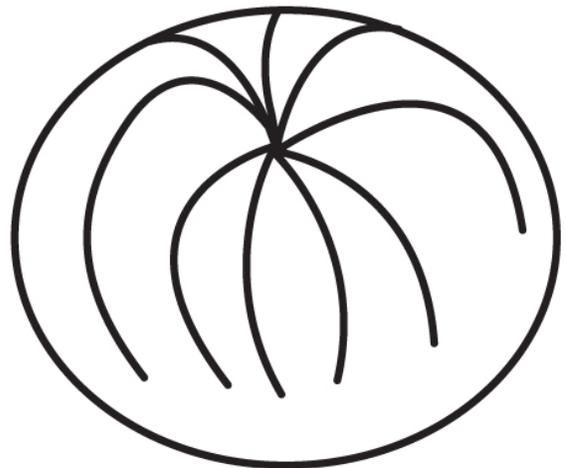


Sprout 1

One Little Seed (Pattern 2 of 5)

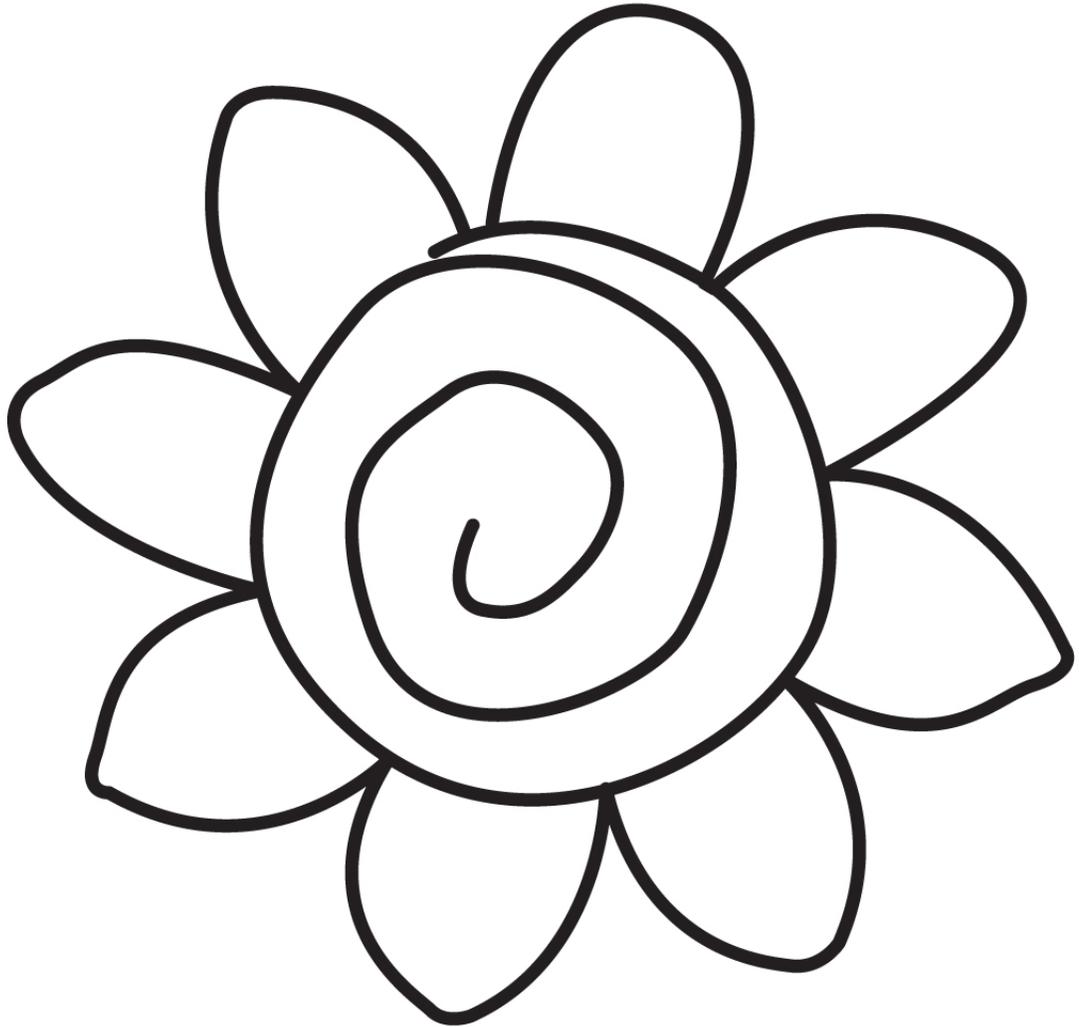


Sprout 2

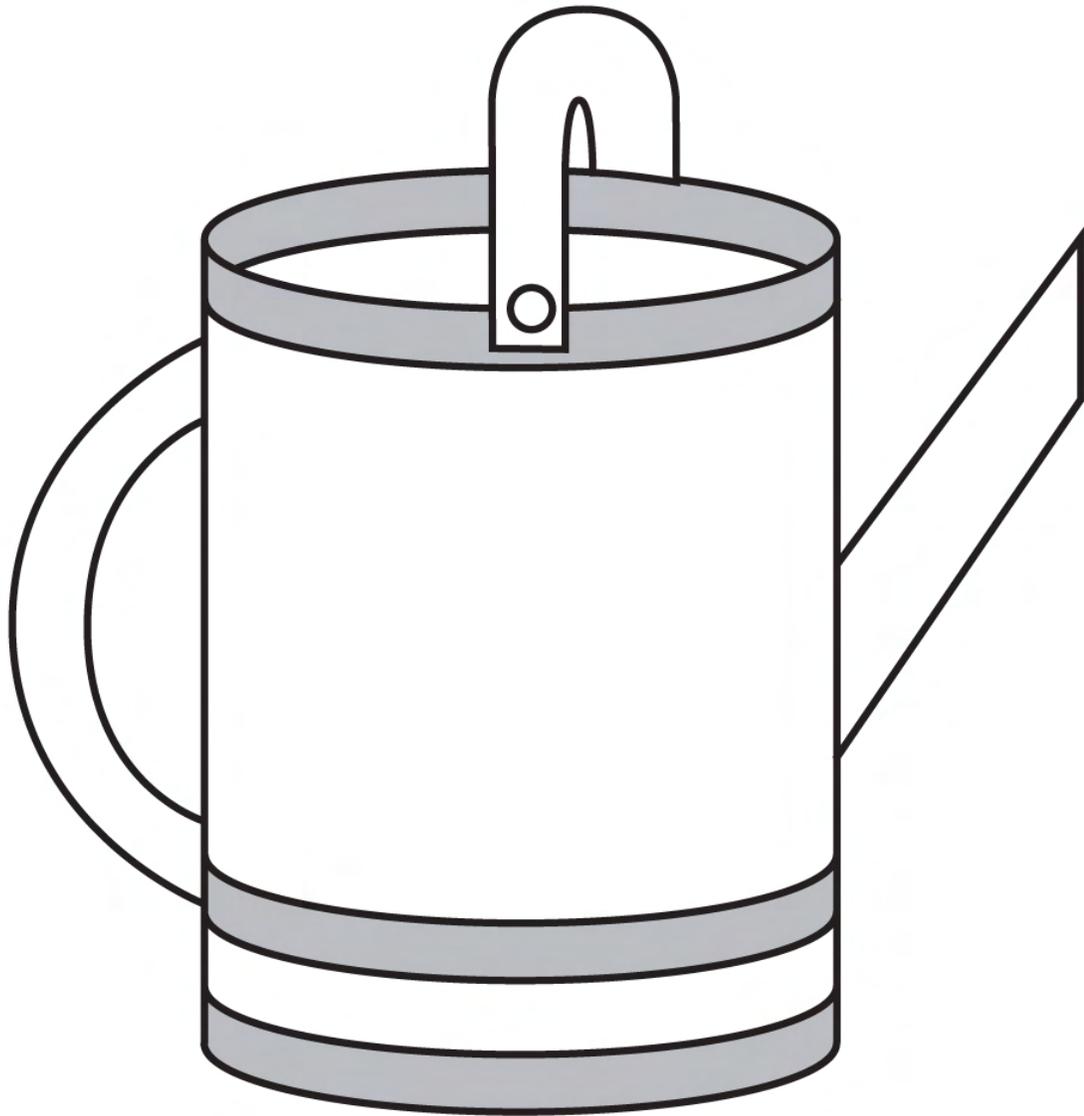


Bud

One Little Seed (Pattern 3 of 5)

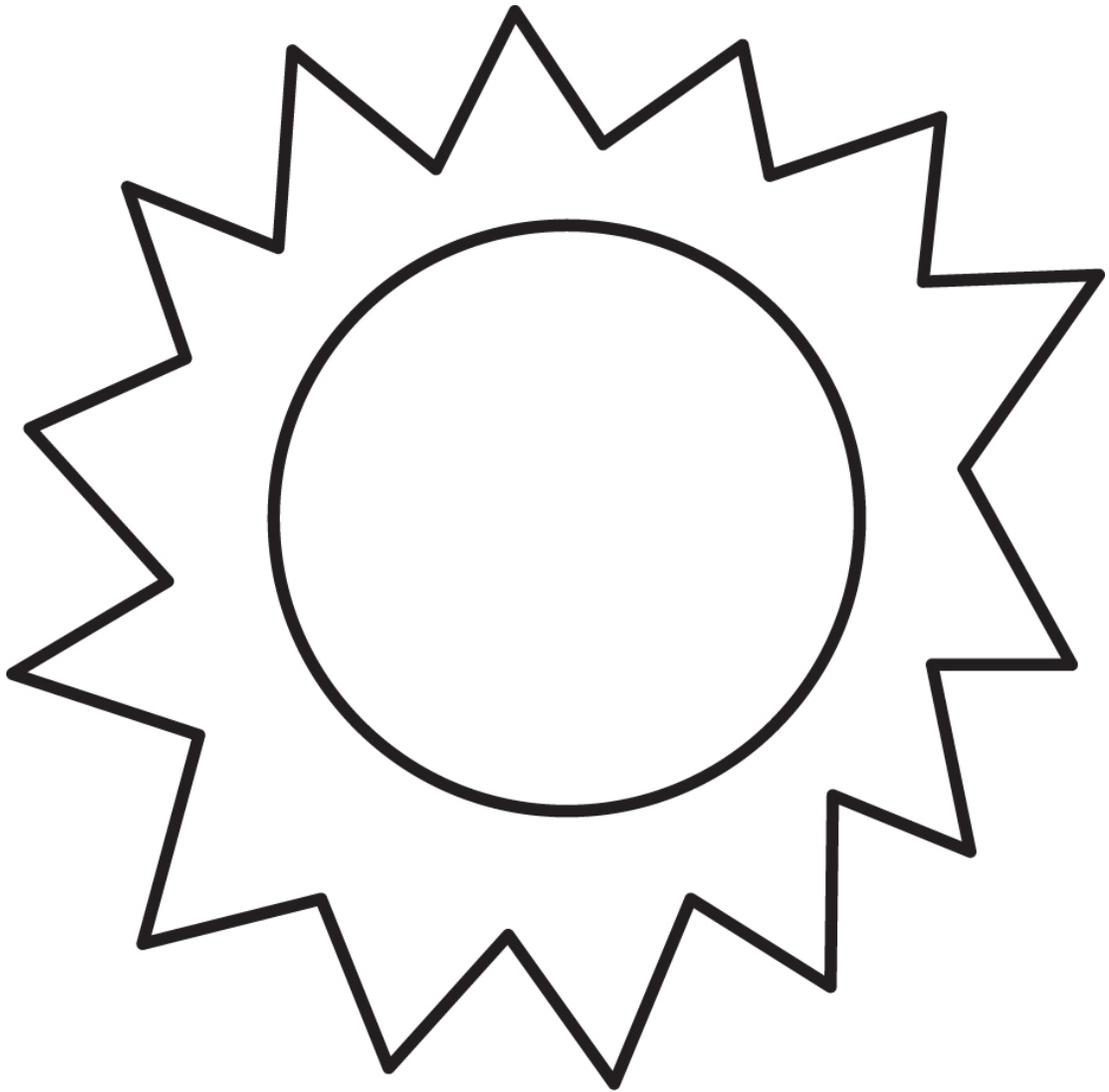


Sunflower



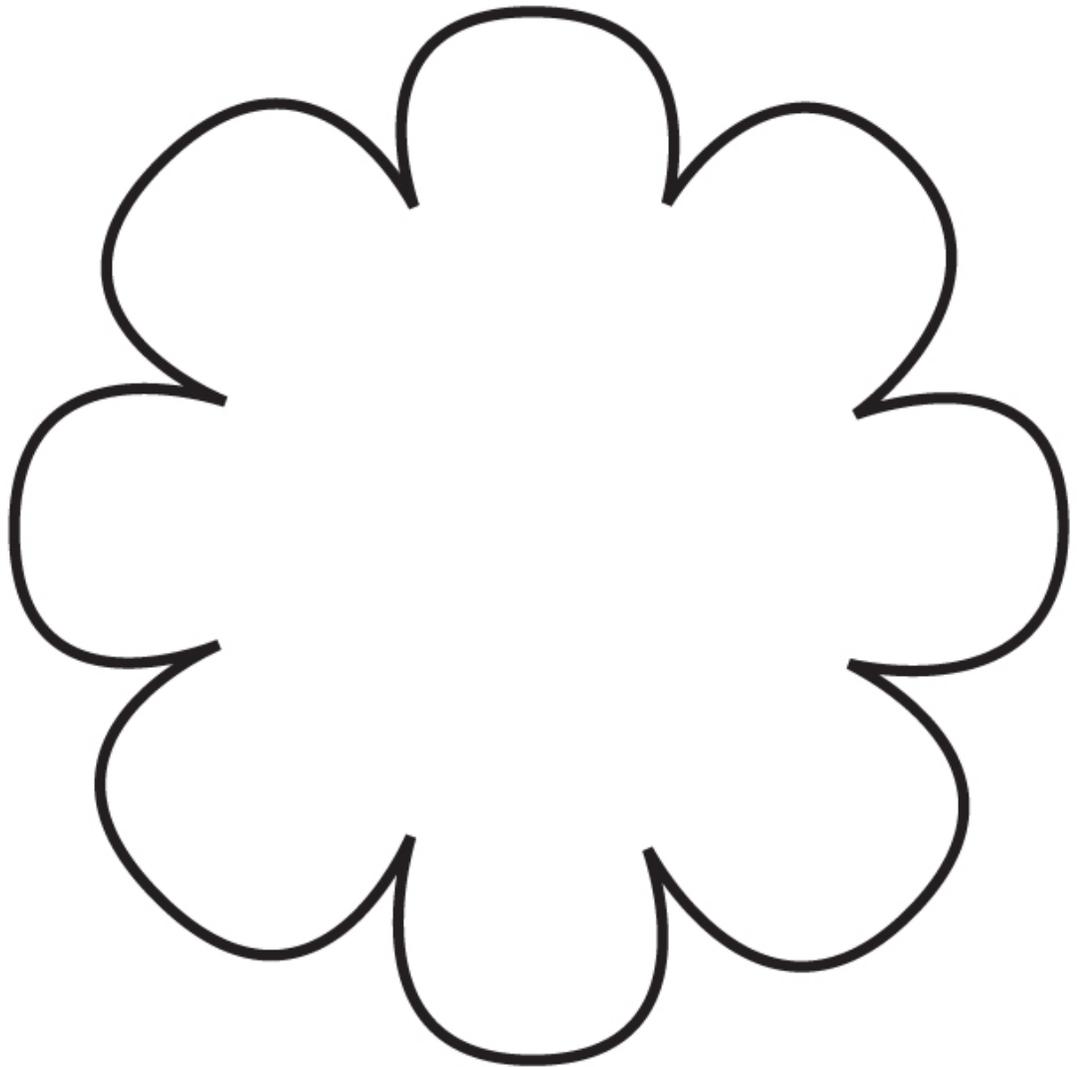
Watering Can

One Little Seed (Pattern 5 of 5)

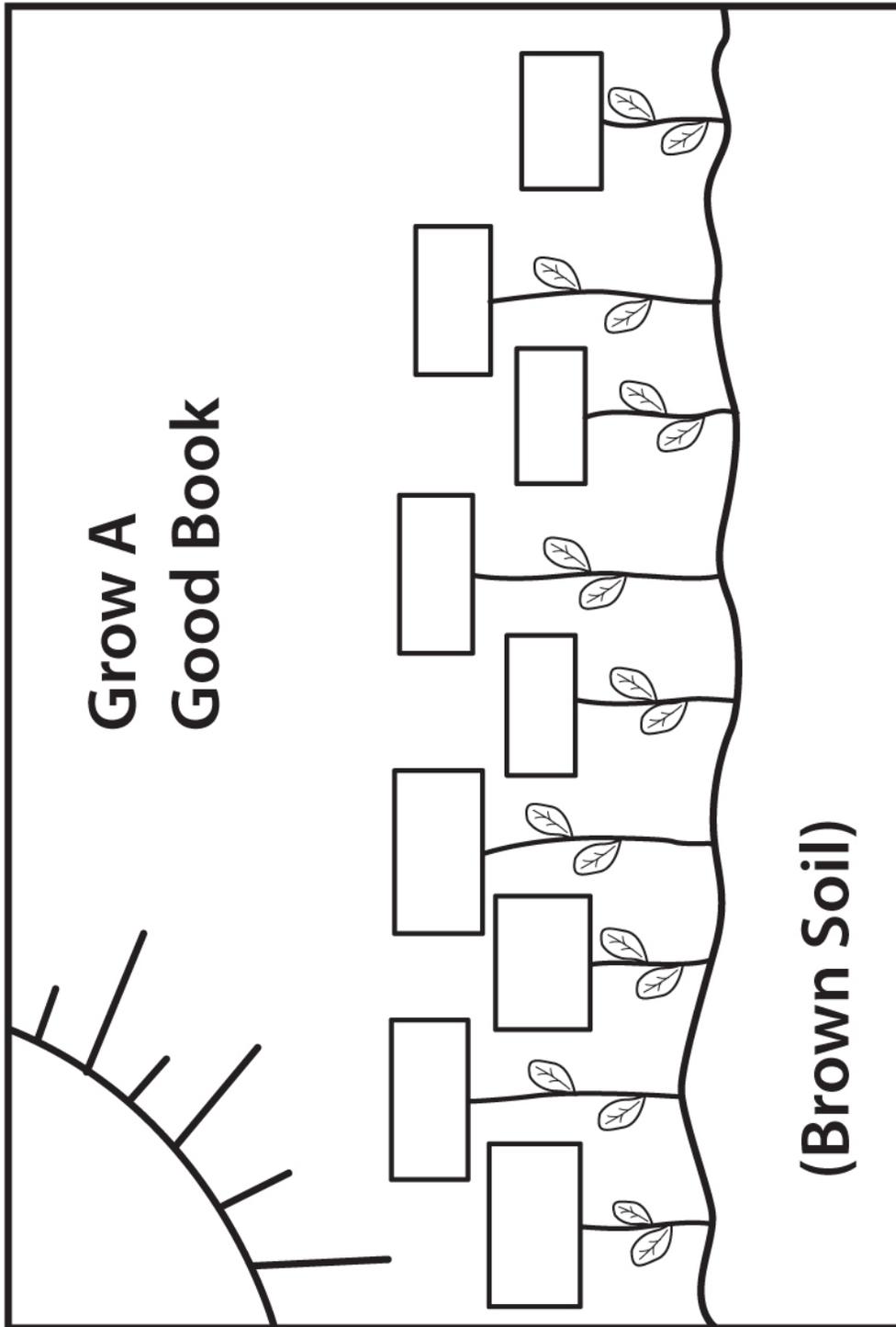


Sun

Pattern Recognition – Flower Pattern



Grow a Good Book



Roar! A Trip to Dinosaur Valley

Books to Share

- Dad's Dinosaur Day* by Diane Hearn.
Dinosaur Train by John Gurney.
Dinosaurs, Dinosaurs by Bryon Barton.
How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight? by Jane Yolen.
My Dinosaur by Mark Weatherby.
Ridin' Dinos with Buck Bronco by George McClements.
Sammy and the Dinosaurs by Ian Whybrow.
T is for Terrible by Peter McCarthy.
Whatever Happened to the Dinosaurs? by Bernard Most.

Nametag

Make nametags using the *Accucut* dinosaur die cut at www.accucut.com/Dinosaur_1_br_Stegosaurus-p2382c812-path0.html.

Or, use the dinosaur pattern from Jean Warren's *Preschool Express* at www.preschoolexpress.com/pattern_station02/dino_patterns_jul02.pdf.

Rhymes and Poetry

Recite "Stomp! Stomp! Roar! Roar!" on P. 35 in *Storytimes...Plus!* by Kay Lincycomb.

Dino Pokey

(Adapted by Heather Coleson. Sing to the tune of "The Hokey Pokey.")

Put your terrible teeth in,
Take your terrible teeth out,
Put your terrible teeth in,
And knash them all about,
You do the dino pokey and you turn yourself around.
That's what its all about!

Repeat the verse with:

...long tail and wave it all about...
...spiked back and shake it all about...
...front claws and shake them all about...

...back claws and shake them all about...
...whole body and shake it all about...

Songs

The Dinosaurs Lived Long Ago

(Adapted by Heather Coleson. Sing to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb.")

The dinosaurs lived a long time ago,
long time ago, long time ago.

*(stick up thumb, like hitchhiking and
point back over shoulder)*

The dinosaurs lived a long time ago,
we're so glad they're gone!

The tyrannosaurus rex had a terrible roar,
Terrible roar,
Terrible roar,
The Tyrannosaurus Rex had a terrible roar
We're so glad he's gone.

*(ROAR!)
(ROAR!),
(ROAR!)
(ROAR!)*

The brontosaurus went munch on the
leaves, munch on the leaves,
Munch on the leaves.
The brontosaurus went munch on the leaves.
We're so glad he's gone!

*(open and close hands)
(open and close hands)*

The pteradactyl's wings went flap, flap, flap,
Flap, flap, flap, Flap, flap, flap.
The pteradactyls wings went flap, flap, flap,
We're so glad he's gone!

*(flap arms like a bird)
(flap arms like a bird)*

The stegosaurus' tail went back and forth,
back and forth, back and forth.
The stegosaurus' tail went back and forth.
We're so glad he's gone!

*(move your bottom back and forth)
(move your bottom back and forth)*

The dinosaurs lived a long time ago,
long time ago, long time ago.

*(stick up thumb, like hitchhiking and
point back over shoulder)*

The dinosaurs lived a long time ago,
we're so glad they're gone!

Flannel Boards

Tell the short story, "The Dinosaur that Couldn't Roar" on P. 256-257 in *The Best of Totline Flannelboards* by Kathleen Cubley. Use the flannel patterns included to make your own flannel pieces.

Jokes and Riddles

Tell dinosaur jokes and riddles found in *Dino Rib Ticklers* by Michael Dahl.

Puppet Shows

Perform the informational "Dinosaur Puppet Show" on *Gayle's Preschool Rainbow* at www.preschoolrainbow.org/dinosaur.htm.

Stories

Tell "Cretaceous Hill" on P. 114-115 in *52 Programs for Preschoolers* by Diane Briggs. This is a draw-and-tell story that ends with a baby dinosaur hatching out of an egg.

Crafts

Make your own triceratops. Instructions and patterns are available from *First School* at www.first-school.ws/activities/crafts/animals/dinosaurs/dinosaur1.htm.

Dinosaur Scene



Materials

- 9 x 12 inch construction paper
- Glue
- Dinosaur die cuts
- Feathers, straws, sand, pipe cleaners, etc.

Directions

Give each child a 9 x 12 inch piece of construction paper and several dinosaur die cuts. Let the child recreate an imaginary dinosaur scene by gluing the dinosaur die cuts to the paper and decorating them with feathers, sand, and anything else you have on hand.

Crafts for Kids Who are Learning about Dinosaurs

Crafts for Kids Who are Learning about Dinosaurs by Kathy Ross includes twenty two dinosaur crafts, from a "Hatching Baby Dinosaur" to a "Pterodactyl Bookmark."

Games and Activities

Dinosaur Fossil Hunt

Fill up several medium sized buckets with sand. Hide a few dinosaur "fossils" in the sand. Let the children take turns digging in the sand for the fossils.

Be a Dinosaur

Show the children pictures of various types of dinosaurs. Have the children tell you and act out how they think the dinosaurs moved and acted.

Guest Speakers

Invite someone from your local museum to talk about dinosaurs and bring fossils and other visual representations of dinosaurs.

Books to Display or Booktalk

All Aboard the Dino Train by Deb Lund.

Dinosaur, Dinosaur by Kevin Lewis.

Edwina, the Dinosaur Who Didn't Know She Was Extinct by Mo Willems.

My Visit to the Dinosaurs by Alikei.

Thesaurus Rex by Laya Steinberg.

Tyrannosaurus Tex by Betty Birney.

Tyson the Terrible by Diane Fox.

Bulletin Board

STOMP on Down to Storytime This Week for a ROARING Good Time!

Display a prehistoric dinosaur scene complete with an erupting volcano. Use dinosaur die cuts, or draw your own dinosaurs to decorate the scene. Be sure to include tropical palm trees, and possibly include a clutch of dinosaur eggs.

Display

Here are several suggestions for a display.

Ask a local museum for any dinosaur fossils they might loan for your display case.

Display 3-wooden dinosaur puzzles from *Edmunds Scientific* at <http://scientificsonline.com/product.asp?pn=3085095&mr:trackingCode=9BAFC2C7-7656-DD11-AFF6-000423C27502&mr:referralID=NA&bhcd2=1216677306>.

Create your own dinosaur fossils by buying 24-hour self-hardening clay. Press leaves, small rubber dinosaurs and anything else you desire into it and make your own "fossil."

Decorations

Decorate the room with dinosaur die cuts or large pictures of dinosaurs. Go around the room and identify the dinosaurs with the children during the program.

Incentives

Purchase "dinosaur-themed items" from *Smilemakers*. See http://www.smilemakers.com/Smilemakers/search_results.asp?Gift=false&find%5Fspec=dinosaurs&searchtype=AND&mscssid=E3C1BEB914F6493394BE1222AAC28EB6&position=14.

Refreshments

Serve dinosaur fruit snacks.

Audio Recordings

"We are the Dinosaurs" on *Whaddaya Think of That?* by Laurie Berkner.

"If I Had a Dinosaur" on *Raffi: the Singable Songs Collection* by Raffi.

Videos/DVD's/Films

All About Dinosaurs for Children. (23 minutes)

Danny the Dinosaur...And More. (58 minutes)

Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs. (55 minutes)

How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight. (59 minutes)

Stanley's Dinosaur Round-Up. (71 minutes)

Web Sites

Dinosaur Valley State Park

www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/dinosaur_valley/

This web site includes information on the park, a downloadable guide, an online video for the children to watch, and a calendar of events for the park.

Sue at the Field Museum

www.fieldmuseum.org/sue/

This is an interactive and sophisticated web site dedicated to Sue, the largest dinosaur fossil ever found. It includes an image gallery and a kid's page.

Professional Resources

52 Programs for Preschoolers: The Librarian's Year-Round Planner by Diane Briggs.

The Best of Totline Flannelboards by Kathleen Cubley.

Crafts for Kids Who are Learning About Dinosaurs by Kathy Ross.

Storytimes...Plus! by Kay Lincycomb.

Accucut

www.accucut.com

You may purchase die-cut machines, dies, and laminators from this web site.

First School

www.first-school.ws

Crafts, lesson plans, printables, and other activities for preschoolers through kindergartners are available on this web site.

Jean Warren's Preschool Express

www.preschoolexpress.com

This site includes toddler and preschool storytime activities, songs, crafts, and patterns. The pattern section is useful for making nametags.

Gayle's Preschool Rainbow

www.preschoolrainbow.org/index.htm

This web site has preschool and kindergarten themes and ideas for teachers.

SmileMakers

www.smilemakers.com

Good quality stickers and small incentives are available from this web site.

Space Station Texas

Books to Share

Astronaut PiggyWiggy by Christyan Fox.

I Want to Be an Astronaut by Bryon Barton.

2009 Texas Reading Club Manual

Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!

Published by the Library Development Division of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Austin, Texas 2009.

Man on the Moon by Anastasia Suen.

Mooncake by Frank Asch.

Papa Please Get the Moon by Eric Carle.

Twinkle by Scott Fischer.

What is the Moon Full Of? By Shulamith Oppenheim.

Zoom! Zoom! I'm Off to the Moon by Dan Yaccarino.

Nametag

Stars and Planets

Make star nametags from an *Accucut* die at www.accucut.com/Star_2-p3722c427-path0.html. Or, use the planet [pattern](#) provided at the end of this program.

Rhymes and Poetry

The Moon

(Adapted by Heather Coleson. Sing to the tune of the "The Itsy Bitsy Spider.")

The round and glowing moon, *(raise arms above head and form a circle)*

Shined up the night so bright,

Out came the clouds,

And blocked up all its light. *(lower arms, waving hands downward in a sweeping motion)*

Along came the wind, *(blow)*

And blew the clouds away,

And the round and glowing moon *(slowly raise arms above head and form a circle)*

Was shining once again.

Recite the Mother Goose rhyme, "Hey Diddle Diddle."

Recite "Zoom, Zoom, Zoom" from *The Best Kids Book Site* at www.thebestkidsbooksite.com/funfingerplay.cfm?fingerplayid=303

Recite "Planets" and other space rhymes and poetry from the *Can Teach* web site at www.canteach.ca/elementary/songspoems34.html.

Songs

Sing "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star." Flannelboard patterns can be found on Pages 72-73 in *The Best of Totline Flannelboards* by Kathleen Cubley.

Crafts

Space Scenes

Materials

- 12 x 18 inch black construction paper
- Pre-cut stars, moons, and circles
- Silver glitter
- Glue

Directions

Give each child a 12 x 18 inch piece of black construction paper, a pre-cut star and moon, and circles in varying sizes and colors to represent planets. Let the children decorate an outer space scene and add silver glitter to their pictures for a nice finishing touch.



Orbiting Objects Paper Plate Craft

Select from a variety of objects to orbit around your paper plate moon, earth or planet from *DLTK Kids* at www.dltk-kids.com/crafts/space/morbit.htm.

Shooting Star Wands

Materials

2009 Texas Reading Club Manual

Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!

Published by the Library Development Division of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Austin, Texas 2009.

- Yellow card stock or construction paper
- Scissors
- Stapler
- Liquid glue
- Curling ribbon
- Glitter
- Straws

Directions

Using the star pattern from *Family Fun* at <http://familyfun.go.com/printables/craft-templates/printable/star-pattern/>, cut a star for each child from yellow card stock or construction paper. Cut up enough 2-foot pieces of curling ribbon for each child to have 3 to 4 pieces. Pre-curl the ribbon and give each child several pieces. Let the child tape or staple the ribbons to the top of the straw; tape or staple the star to the top of the straw; and decorate the star with glitter.



Games and Activities

Play the "Planet and Star Games" from Jean Warren's *Preschool Express* at www.preschoolexpress.com/theme_station07/outer_space_jun07.shtml.

Guest Speakers

Invite someone from a local planetarium or astronomy group to speak to the kids about stars and planets.

Books to Display or Booktalk

Astronauts by Carmon Bredeson.

Lift off! by Carmon Bredeson.

Moondogs by Daniel Kirk.

On the Launch Pad: A Counting Book About Rockets by Michael Dahl.

The Planets by Martha Rustad.

Pupniks: The Story of Two Space Dogs by Ruth Lubka.

Bulletin Board

Blast off to Storytime!

Create a space scene on your bulletin board. Make a large moon with a rocket on it. Add stars and other planets.

Display

Ask a staff member or a local astronomy group for a telescope and star guides to display.

NASA's Johnson Space Flight Center loans displays to non-profit organizations, free-of-charge. Be sure to book well in advance. Visit www.nasa.gov/centers/johnson/events/exhibits/index.html for details.

Decorations

Place glow-in-the-dark stars and planets on the ceiling and walls of the storytime room, and turn off the lights and show the children the starry sky! Be sure to announce in advance that you are going to turn off the lights.

Incentives

Purchase "Solar System Dot Stickers" from *SmileMakers* at www.smilemakers.com/Smilemakers/product_family.asp?family%5Fid=1723&gift=False&mscssid=00361E1C9B508439CB7C677168ED4717 in packages of 75 for \$5.99.

Refreshments

Serve prepackaged Moon Pies in a variety of flavors. Top them off with a glass of milk.

Or, serve freeze dried ice cream and Tang.

Audio Recordings

"Aikendrum" on *Raffi the Singable Songs Collection* by Raffi.

"Rocket" on *Toot! Toot!* by The Wiggles.

"Moon Moon Moon" on *Victor Vito* by Laurie Berkner.

Videos/DVD's/Films

All About Astronauts. (61 minutes)

All About the Planets. (23 minutes)

The Big Space Shuttle. (50 minutes)

Magic School Bus Space Adventures. (82 minutes)

Reading Rainbow: Space Case. (30 minutes)

Web Sites

Johnson Space Center's Web site for Children

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/en/kids/>

This web site includes games, projects, fun facts and more, all presented in a kid-friendly format.

NASA

<http://www.nasa.gov/audience/forstudents/k-4/index.html>

The NASA web site has a special area for students in Kindergarten through Fourth Grade with informational articles, a picture dictionary, and games.

Professional Resources

The Best of Totline Flannelboards by Kathleen Cubley.

Accucut

www.accucut.com

Purchase dies, die-cut machines, and laminators from this web site.

The Best Kids Book Site

www.thebestkidsbooksite.com

Storytime ideas, books, crafts, and fingerplays can be found on this web site.

Can Teach

www.canteach.ca/index.html

This web site contains lesson plans, recipes, songs, poems, and numerous other resources for elementary teachers.

DLTK's

www.dltk-kids.com

This web site has a variety of crafts for kids, ages 2 and up.

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Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!

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Jean Warren's Preschool Express

www.preschoolexpress.com

This web site includes Toddler and Preschool storytime activities, songs, crafts and patterns. The pattern section is useful when making nametags.

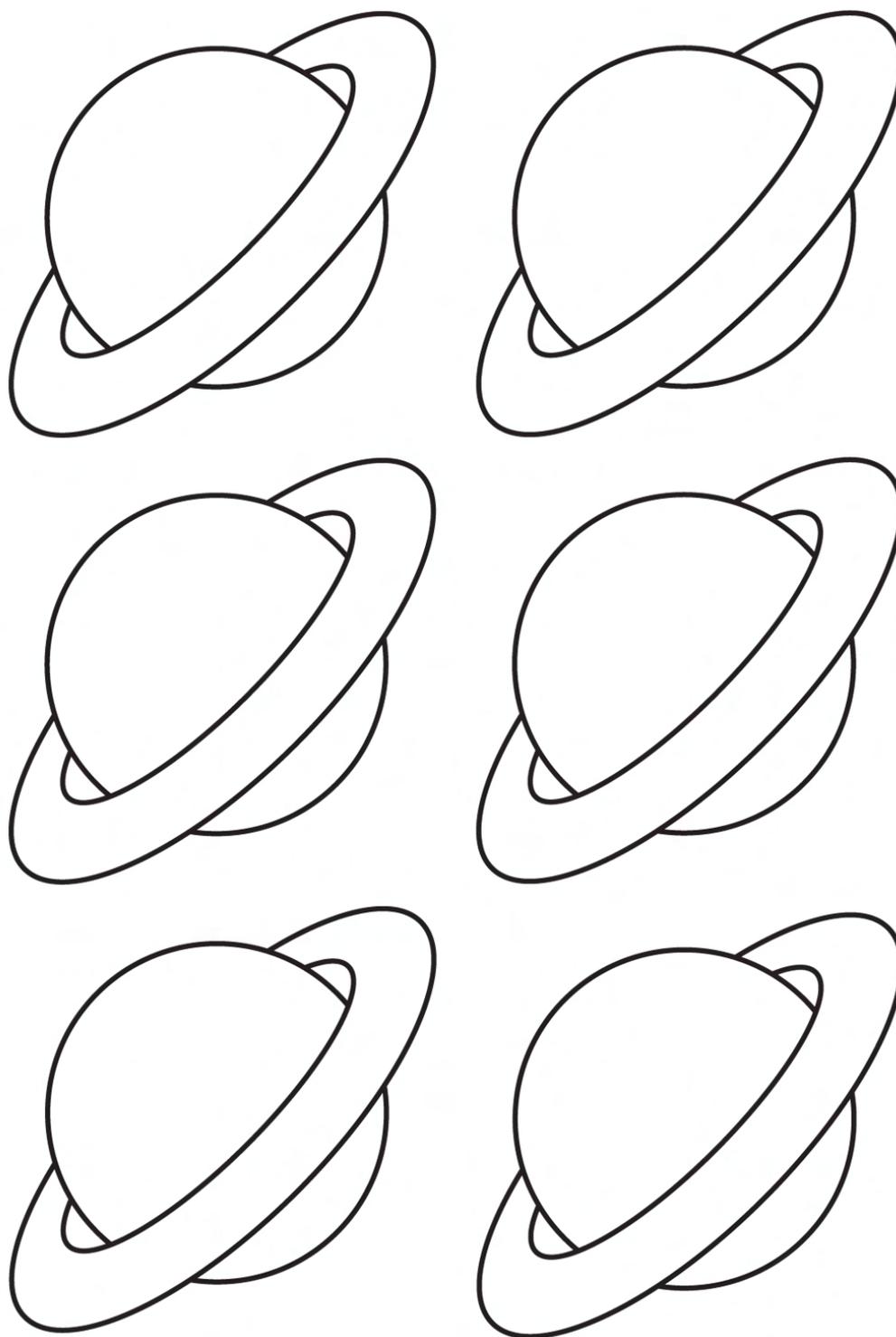
SmileMakers

www.smilemakers.com

Good quality stickers and small incentives are available from this web site.

Craft Materials

Planet Name Tags



Elementary Programs Chapters

By Bonnie Langan and Anne Neidinger

Deep in the Heart of Libraries

Books to Share

Beverly Billingsly Borrows a Book by Alexander Stadler.

The Boy Who Was Raised by Librarians by Carla Morris.

I Took My Frog to the Library by Eric A. Kimmel.

The Library Dragon by Carmen Deedy.

The Librarian from the Black Lagoon by Mike Thaler.

Stella Louella's Runaway Book by Lisa Ernst.

Tomás and the Library Lady by Pat Mora.

The Library by Sarah Stewart.

Puppet Plays

"The Case of the Disappearing Books" on Pages 133-139 of *One Person Puppet Plays* by Denise Anton Wright.

"The Mystery of the Haunted Library" by Rose Treviño, from *Mission Possible, Spy a Book!*, the 2003 Texas Reading Club manual, at www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/2003/manual/scripts/hauntedlibrary.html.

Reader's Theater

"Reading to the Rescue" by Barrie Teague Alguire in the Elementary Programs Chapter of *Sail Away with Books!*, the 2007 Texas Reading Club manual, at http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/2007/manual/elem_dontrock.html.

Crafts

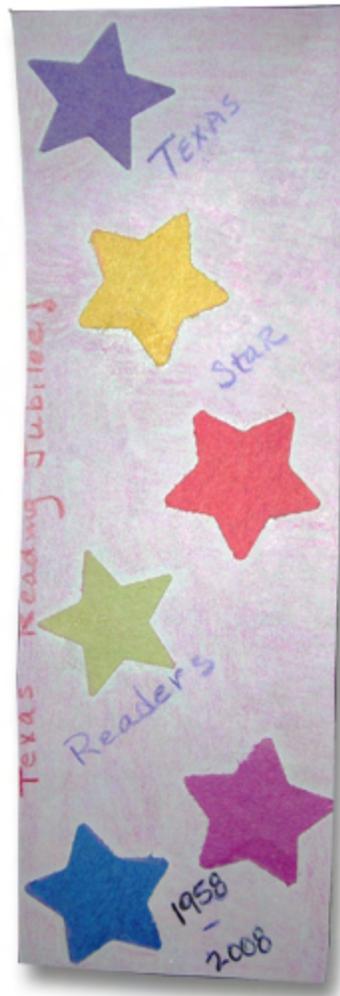
Library Bookmarks

Materials

- Crayons, markers, or paint
- White cardstock or white construction paper

Directions

Invite the children to create bookmarks. If you wish, let them design logos for your library on their bookmarks, and then reproduce them and distribute them to children at your library.



Games and Activities

Design and Build A Library

Invite the architect who designed your library, or another architect, to speak to children about library design and building planning. Afterward, invite children to design and build their library of the future. Provide building materials of all kinds, including paper and pencils, building blocks, connectors, etc., and time to plan and build.

Book Cart Decorating Contest

Show some of the YouTube videos linked below of ALA Book Cart Drill Teams.

ALA 2008 Book Cart Champions at <http://youtube.com/watch?v=TNVK-XITKE4&feature=related>

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ALA 2007 Book Cart Champions at www.youtube.com/watch?v=TmtCZyKQsIY

ALA 2006 Book Cart Champions at www.youtube.com/watch?v=rINm0TZrnyQ

Let the children form groups and decorate book carts. Award prizes in various categories for the decorations, such as most original, most colorful, most mysterious, etc. Then host a parade, or let the children create a book cart drill routine.

Library Pen Pals

Partner with a library in another Texas city for the children to correspond and share news. Provide postcards for the children to color, and let them write letters about their interests, the books they are reading, and activities they are involved in during the summer at the library and elsewhere. Invite them to include photos and drawings. Set up a mailbox and invite children to write weekly. Gather up the children's letters and mail them weekly during the summer. Display letters and pictures that you receive from your partner library, read them to the children, or let the children read them.

Secret Library

Begin this activity by giving the children maps of your library to examine. Ask the children to imagine a secret area of the library. The children may work together or in groups to draw a map, design a logo, select a mascot, design a library card, web page, etc. Begin the creative process by asking questions such as those listed below.

- If there were secret areas in the library, where would they be?
- What would it be called?
- Would there be secret doors? Where would they be?
- Who could find the secret doors? (Suggestion: Children who read 100 books.)
- To enter, would they need a secret password, perhaps from a book? If so, what book and what password?
- What special books or collections would they find in the secret area?
- Would they need a special library card to check out books from the secret collection?
- Would the secret library have a logo? If so, what would it look like? Can you draw it?
- Would the secret library have a mascot? If so, what would it be? Can you draw it?
- Can you draw a map of the secret area?
- Would there be a secret web page? If so, what would it look like? How would people find it?
- Who will you share your secret library with?

Guest Speakers

Invite library staff to booktalk and read sections of favorite current or classic children's books.

Books to Display or Booktalk

Down Cut Shin Creek: The Pack Horse Librarians of Kentucky by Kathi Appelt.

The Deserted Library Mystery by Gertrude Chandler Warner.

Exploring the Library by Alice K. Flanagan.

The Inside-Outside Book of Libraries by Julie Cummins.

The Librarian Who Measured the Earth by Kathryn Lasky.

Who Stole the Wizard of Oz? by Avi.

Displays

Prepare a display of photos and books about the history of libraries, and feature your own library. Display photos, newspaper clippings, and show changes in the building, technology, and space. Show how libraries and technology have changed, but explain that customers have remained the focus.

Bulletin Board

Book Reviews

Decorate a bulletin board with die cuts and covers of books, bookmarks, stars, a laptop, pen and paper. Provide an opportunity for children to review books using the outline below. Affix reviews to the bulletin board.

A Summer Book Review

Write your own book review. Check out our library, read a book, and review it for other readers!

Title of
Book _____

Author _____

Your
Name _____

What kind of book did you read? Was it a mystery, science fiction, fantasy, historical, funny, or something else?

Who was your most favorite character in the book and what did you like about the character? _____

Who was your least favorite character in the book and what did you dislike about the character?

What happened in the story? Don't spoil the ending!

How many stars would you give this book? Five is the most!

(Circle the number of stars)



Professional Resources

One Person Puppet Plays by Denise Anton Wright.

ALA 2006 Book Cart Champions

www.youtube.com/watch?v=rINmOTZrnyQ

ALA 2007 Book Cart Champions

www.youtube.com/watch?v=TmtCZyKQsIY

ALA 2008 Book Cart Champions

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=TNVK-XITKE4&feature=related>

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Deep in Space

Books to Share

Floating Home by David Getz.

I Am A Space Shuttle, I Love to Fly by Becky Cross.

Here in Space by David Milgrim.

Man on the Moon by Anastasia Suen.

Moo Cow Kaboom by Thatcher Hurd.

The Moon Book by Gail Gibbons.

Space Case by Edward Marshall.

Two Heads Are Better Than One by H.B. Homzie.

Riddles and Jokes

Share riddles from *Spacey Riddles* by Katy hall and Lisa Eisenbery, *Unidentified Flying Riddles* by Joanne E. Bernstein and Paul Cohen, and *Way Out!: Jokes from Outer Space* by Louise Phillips.

Puppet Shows

Moon Rock Soup

Perform the two-person puppet show, "Moon Rock Soup," a variation of "Stone Soup," in *Amazingly Easy Puppet Plays: 42 New Scripts for One-Person Puppetry* by Dee Anderson.

Space Creatures Meet Mother Goose

Perform the two-person puppet show "Space Creatures Meet Mother Goose," a surprise for both the Goose and creatures, in *Amazingly Easy Puppet Plays: 42 New Scripts for One-Person Puppetry* by Dee Anderson.

Take Me to Your Library

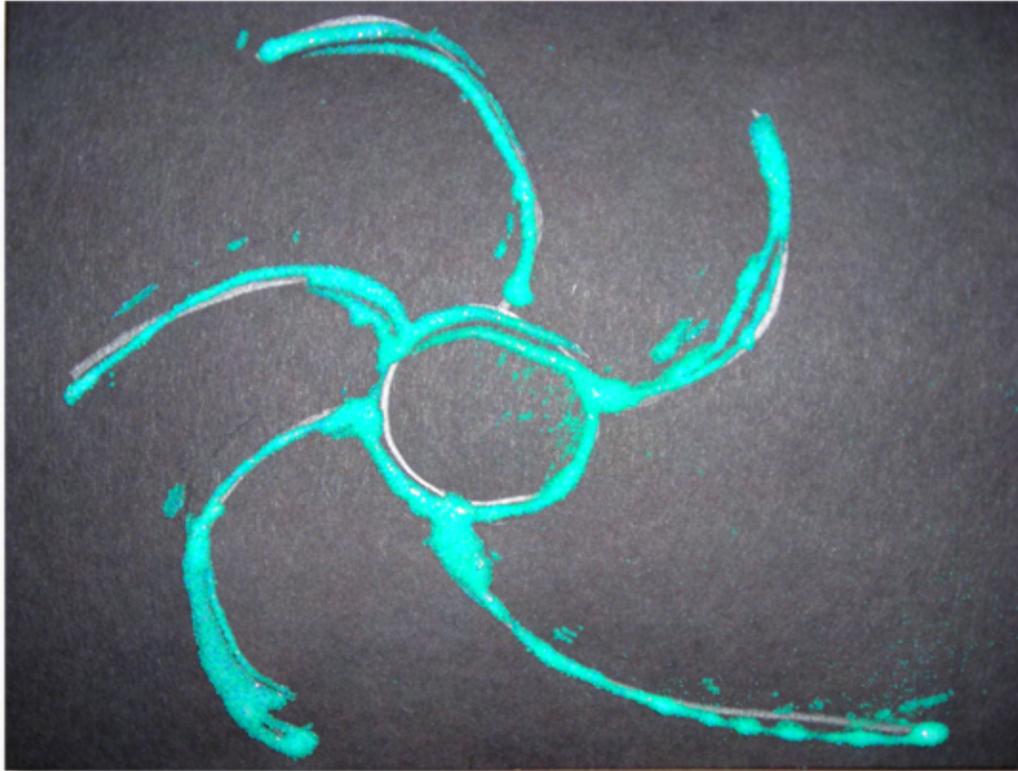
Perform "Take Me to Your Library", a puppet show about an alien coming to Earth, in *One-Person Puppet Plays* by Denise Anton Wright.

Crafts

Glitter Galaxy Craft

For directions for this simple craft, visit *Enchanted Learning* at www.enchantedlearning.com and search for "Glitter Galaxy Craft." *Enchanted Learning* is children's educational web site with games and crafts and more and is designed to stimulate creativity, learning, enjoyment and imagination. Part of

the site may be accessed for free. With a \$20 membership, additional pages are available.



Science Experiments

Aha! Science Handouts

Staff from the Carroll County Public Library in Carroll County, Maryland, created the *Aha! Science* web site with grant funding. It includes handouts at <http://library.carr.org/aha/default.asp> and a link to space-related programs. Explore the handouts and all the science experiments and share some of them with children at your library this summer.

NASA's Space Place

NASA's Space Place at <http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/en/kids/> features science experiments, including the exploration of molecules using gumdrops, and an experiment testing space material.

Guest Speakers

Invite an astronomer or astronomy club member to talk to the children about viewing space and using telescopes. Ask them to bring a telescope to show to the children.

Books to Display or Booktalk

Book of Flight: The Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum by Judith E. Rinard.

Comets, Stars, the Moon, and Mars: Space Poems and Paintings by Douglas Florian.

My Book of Space by Ian Graham.

The Mystery of Mars by Sally Ride and Tam O'Shaughnessy.

Space and the Planets by Kris Hirschmann.

Team Moon: How 400,000 People Landed Apollo 11 on the Moon by Catherine Thimmesh.

Bulletin Board

Deep in Space: Astronaut or Alien?

Cover your bulletin board with a fabric with stars or other space designs. Enlarge clip art of astronauts and aliens, or print photos and attach them on the board. Take photos of staff members and insert their faces over the faces of the aliens and astronauts. Let the children write their names on die cuts of alien and astronaut, and add them to the bulletin board. Add aluminum foil asteroids and stars, and photos of black holes, telescopes, observatories, and the space shuttle. Hang Styrofoam planets.

Display

Include a timeline of NASA landings and explorations with photos and graphics from the NASA web site at www.nasa.gov/missions/index.html and www.history.nasa.gov/timeline.html. Add biographies of astronauts and nonfiction books about space and NASA.

Decorate a shoebox as a "space mailbox" and add it to your display. Encourage the children to learn more about the Astronauts by reading the trading cards and books. Supply paper and pens and invite them to write letters to the astronauts and share a favorite space book. "Launch" the letters by mailing them to NASA at the end of the reading club.

Decorations

Display furry aliens, rockets, astronauts, spaceships, blue and black balloons, and anything that glows in the dark.

Incentives

Ask your local parks department, natural science museum, or observatory to donate museum tickets. Or, work with your Friends of the Library organization to purchase them. Invite children who participate in the reading club to place their names in a box for a raffle.

Web Sites

Kids Know It Network

www.kidsastronomy.com

This is a free web site for children to learn about outer space.

NASA-related Web Sites for Kids

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/en/kids/>

NASA provides games, animation, and projects for children on this web site.

Professional Resources

Amazingly Easy Puppet Plays: 42 New Scripts for One-Person Puppetry by Dee Anderson.

One-Person Puppet Plays by Denise Anton Wright.

Spacey Riddles by Katy hall and Lisa Eisenbery.

Unidentified Flying Riddles by Joanne E. Berntein and Paul Cohen.

Way Out!: Jokes from Outer Space by Louise Phillips.

Aha! Science

<http://library.carr.org/aha/default.asp>

This web site created by the Carroll County Public Library includes handouts and links to space-related science programs.

Enchanted Learning

www.enchantedlearning.com

Enchanted Learning is children's educational web site with games and crafts and more. It is designed to stimulate creativity, learning, enjoyment, and imagination. Some crafts, such as the "Glitter Galaxy Craft", may be accessed for free. With a \$20 membership, additional pages are available.

Kaboose.com

<http://crafts.kaboose.com/animal-seltzer-rocket.html>

This site features crafts and science experiments for children, including the "Tiger Seltzer Rocket."

NASA

www.nasa.gov/home/index.html

This main page for the NASA web site includes pictures, missions, and images. For a timeline of NASA landings and explorations with photos and graphics, go to www.nasa.gov/missions/index.html and www.history.nasa.gov/timeline.html.

NASA's Space Place

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/en/kids/>

Space Place features science experiments, including the exploration of molecules using gumdrops.

The Heart of Places

Books to Share

The Alamo Cat by Rita Kerr.

Bluebonnet at Dinosaur Valley State Park by Mary Casad.

Canyons by Gary Paulsen.

Fire on the Hillside by Melinda Rice.

Songs

This Land is Your Land

Sing "This Land is Your Land" by Woody Guthrie. The *NIEHS Kids Page* at <http://kids.niehs.nih.gov/lyrics/thisland.htm> includes a MIDI and lyrics for this song.

Riddles and Jokes

Select riddles from *Riddle City, USA! : A Book of Geography Riddles* by Marco and Guilio Maestro.

Reader's Theater

Time Warp Alamo

Let the children read the "Time Warp Alamo" script by Gayle Travis in *Read Across Texas*, the 2002 Texas Reading Club manual at www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/2002/manual/scripts/timewarp.html.

Stories to Tell

Tell *Babe of the Alamo* by Donna Ingham in *Read Across Texas*, the 2002 Texas Reading Club manual, at www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/2002/manual/scripts/babealamo.html.

Tell *The Zebra-Riding Cowboy* by Angela Shelf Medearis.

Crafts

Travel Journals

Materials

- Inexpensive or donated spiral notebooks of all sizes.
- Glue
- Markers
- Crayons
- Glitter Glue

- Yarn
- Buttons (or other three-dimensional decorations)
- Cardstock or Construction Paper

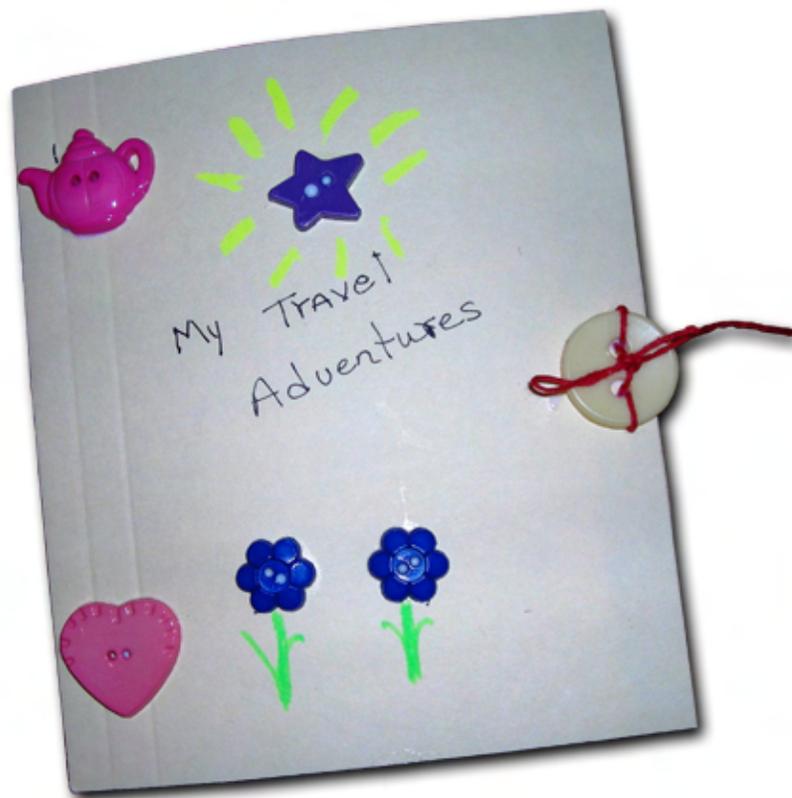
Directions

Let the children create their own travel journals with just a few simple materials. The children cut a piece of cardstock or construction paper to the same size as the front cover of the spiral notebook, and then glue it to the cover. They then decorate the cover of the journal using markers, crayons, and glitter glue, and glue on the buttons or other three dimensional objects. They tie the journal closed with yarn, and attach a favorite pen to the yarn. Encourage children to write about their summer travels, even if they are close to home.

For more ideas for crafts, games, and activities, see "Texas Geography and Plant Life:

Where is Where, and What Grows There?" at

www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/2002/manual/elementary/index.html in the Elementary Programs Chapter by Gayle Travis in the 2002 Texas Reading Club manual, *Read Across Texas!*



Games and Activities

Poetry Time

Let the children select poems from *In Aunt Giraffe's Green Garden* and *The Frog Wore Red Suspenders* by Jack Prelutsky, and read them in a round-robin style. Then, give the children paper and pencils and let them write poems about Texas.

Bluebonnet Travels Across Texas

Read one of the *Bluebonnet* books by Mary Casad each week throughout the summer. Discuss the place that Bluebonnet visits in each book, and bring other books about that place for the children to check out. Explore the Mary Casad's web site at <http://bluebonnetarmadillo.com> for the history of each location and for ideas for additional activities.

Where in Texas?

Place a large map of Texas on the wall and let children place foil stars on towns where they were born or have visited. A United States map may be placed beside it to mark summer vacation spots and for those who were born in another state.

Six Flags Over Texas

Bring out books that show the six flags over Texas. Let the children draw or create them using construction paper or crayons. The six flags over Texas are: the [United States](#), the [Republic of Texas](#), [Spain](#), [Mexico](#), [France](#), and the [Confederacy](#) they are included at the end of this program and as clip art in this manual.

Guest Speakers

Invite a representative from your local Chamber of Commerce or City Hall to tell the children and their families about the entertainment or recreational places available in your area.

Books to Display or Booktalk

Cowboy Stories from East Texas by John Lash.

Natural Wonders of Texas: A Guide to Parks, Preserves and Wild Places by Paul Cook.

Texas Outdoor Adventure Guide for Kids by Melissa Maupin.

Texas Family Style: Great Places to Go to Have Fun with Your Kids by Cassie Bascope, et. al.

Bulletin Boards

Enlarge and affix the outline map of Texas from *Enchanted Learning* at www.enchantedlearning.com/usa/states/texas/ to your bulletin board. Add pictures of various places and landmarks in Texas, such as the Alamo, Big Bend

National Park, Galveston Bay, the Fort Worth stockyards, the Astrodome, Palo Duro Canyon, Missions, cityscapes, parks, etc. Ask the children which ones they have visited.

Display

Display pictures, postcards, or trading cards of places in Texas, along with related books. Create trading cards for Texas places using the instructions at *Big Huge Labs* at <http://bighugelabs.com/flickr/motivator.php>. This web site allows you to take your photos and make a poster and trading cards, and store them for your future use.

Decorations

Decorate your programming room with pictures and memorabilia from natural and man-made attractions and biomes in Texas, such as Six Flags, Big Bend, the hill country, the coastal regions such as Galveston or Corpus Christi, etc. Display souvenirs such as pennants, postcards, shells, etc., along with books about Texas cities and landmarks.

Incentives

Ask your local parks department, travel agencies, museums, Chambers of Commerce, and local businesses to provide free tickets, passes, maps, and travel magazines.

Film, Video Recordings and DVDs

The Best of the Real West. (200 minutes)

Big Bend National Park. (41 minutes)

Professional Resources

Riddle City, USA!: A Book of Geography Riddles by Marco and Guilio Maestro

Big Huge Labs

<http://bighugelabs.com/flickr/motivator.php>

This web site allows you to take your photos and make a poster and trading cards, and store them for your future use.

Bluebonnet the Armadillo

<http://bluebonnetarmadillo.com>

Author Mary Casad's web site featuring characters from her books.

NIEHS Kids Page

<http://kids.niehs.nih.gov/lyrics/valley.htm>

This site includes a MIDI and lyrics for children's songs that are in the public domain. The site is indexed and includes a search option.

Texas Parks and Wildlife

<http://tpwd.state.tx.us>

The ultimate site for Texas outdoor enthusiasts, including fishing, hunting, boating and park destinations in the State.

TourTexas

www.tourtexas.com

This is the official web site of the Texas Travel Industry Association and includes links to destinations, events, maps and downloadable brochures.

Travel Tex

www.traveltex.com

This Official Site of Texas Tourism includes day trip planners and virtual tours of Texas.

Craft Materials

Six Flags Over Texas: United States of America



United States of America 1845 – Present

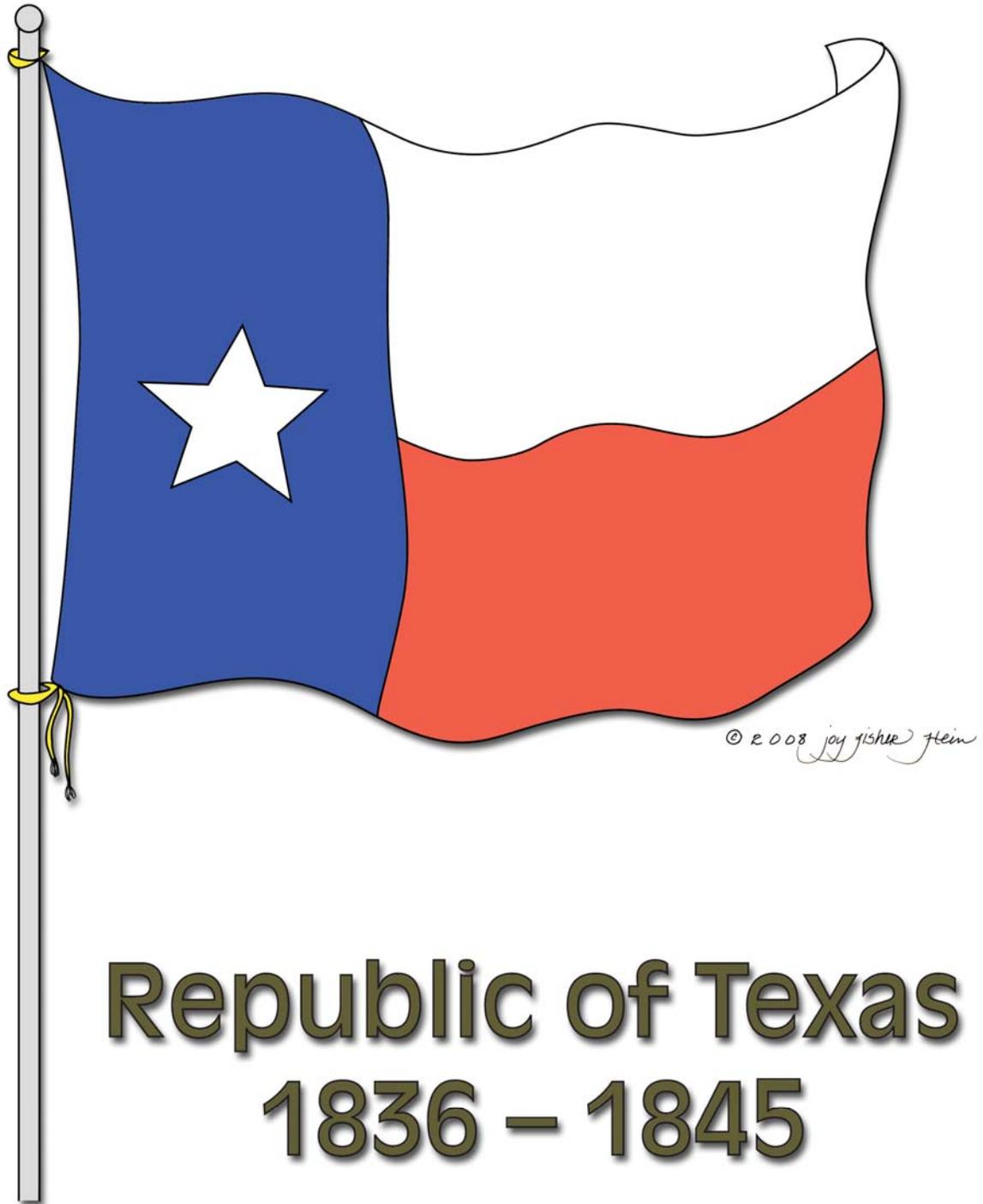
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Confederate States of America 1861 – 1865



Republic of Texas 1836 – 1845

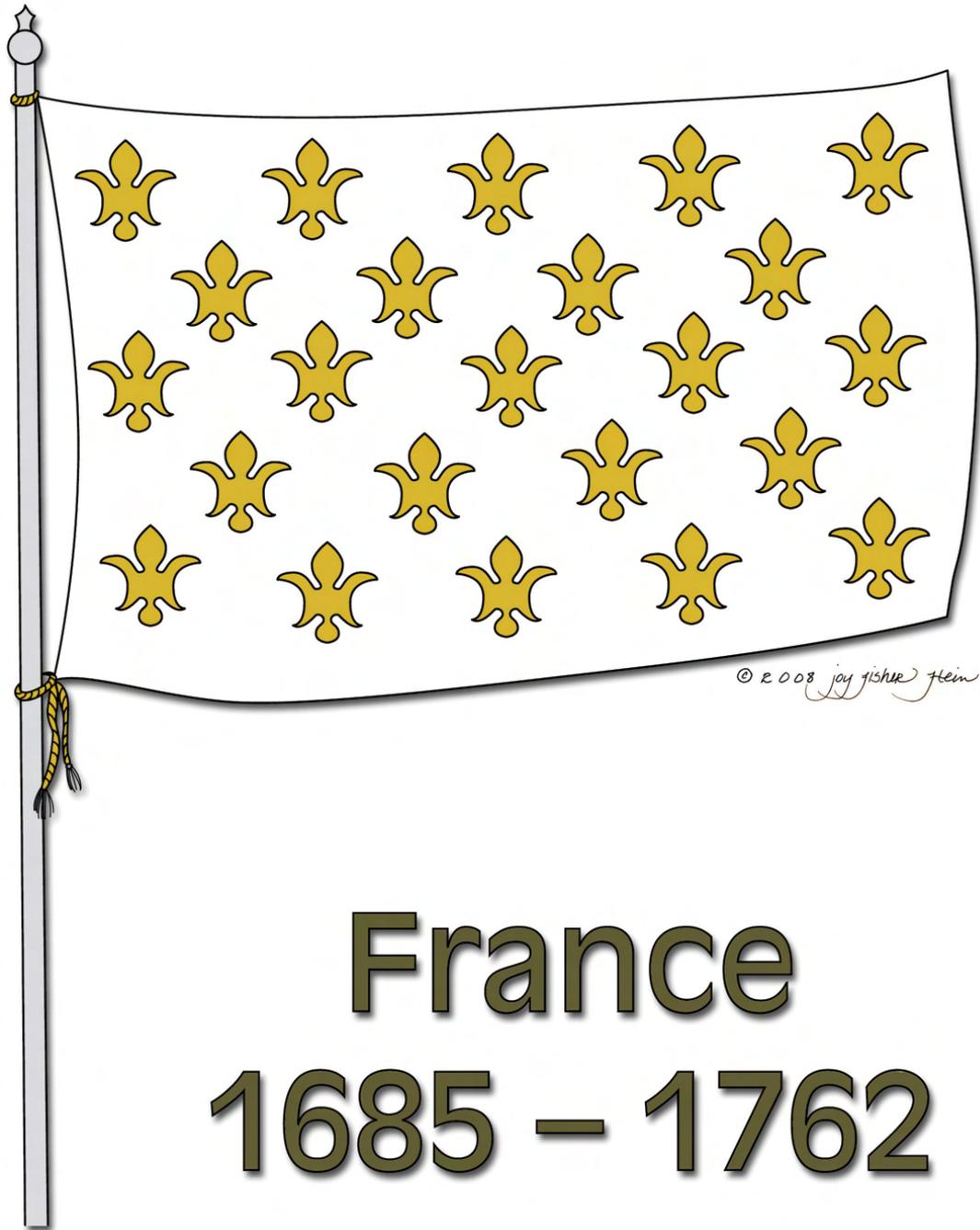
Six Flags Over Texas: Mexico



Mexico

1821 - 1836

Six Flags Over Texas: France



France

1685 – 1762

Six Flags Over Texas: Spain



Spain

1519 – 1821

Deep in Water

Books to Share

Across the Big Blue Sea by Jakki Wood.

Commotion in the Ocean by Giles Andreae.

Fish Sleep But Don't Shut Their Eyes - And Other Amazing Facts About Ocean Creatures by Melvin Berger.

Hello Ocean by Pam Munoz Ryan.

Let's Go Fishing in the Ocean by George Travis.

Things That Swim in Texas Waters by Glenna Grimmer.

Songs

A Sailor Went to Sea

Children choose partners and sit facing each other as they sing this traditional song and perform the clapping actions listed below. Let them repeat the song as many times as they like.

A sailor went to sea, sea, sea,
To see what he could see, see, see,
But all that he could see, see, see,
Was the bottom of the deep blue sea, sea, sea.

Children perform these clapping actions, repeating with each of the four lines.

A – clap own hands
Sai – clap right hand with partner
Lor- clap own hands
Went – clap left hand with partner
To – clap own hands
Sea, sea, sea – clap partner's hands three times

Down by the Bay

Sing "Down by the Bay." Lyrics and a MIDI file are available on the *Kididdles* web site at www.kididdles.com/lyrics/d007.html.

My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean

Sing "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean." Lyrics and a MIDI file are available on the *Kididdles* web site at www.kididdles.com/lyrics/m033.html.

Riddles and Jokes

Select some riddles from *Funny Riddles* by Jacqueline Horsfall.

Have the children make up questions and answers that begin with, "How many fish does it take to _____?"

Reader's Theater

The Pirate's Code

Let the children read "The Pirate's Code" by Barrie Teague Alguire, in *Sail Away with Books*, the 2007 Texas Reading Club manual, at www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/2007/manual/piratecode.html.

Stories

"123 Goldfish" by Linda Befeld from *Sail Away with Books*, the 2007 Texas Reading Club manual, at www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/2007/manual/goldfish.html.

"The Sea King's Daughter, A Russian Legend" on *Aaron Shepard's Storytelling Page*, at www.aaronshp.com/storytelling/GOS12.html.

Crafts

Choose any of the following crafts.

"Paper Plate Starfish Craft" from *Danielle's Place* at www.daniellesplace.com/HTML/paperplate.html.

"Paper Water Balloons" from *Instructibles* at www.instructables.comid/How-to-make-paper-water-balloons/.

"Seashore Collage" from *First School* at www.first-school.ws/activities/artapp/collage.htm.

Games and Activities

Beach Party

Host a beach party or campout. Serve lemonade with umbrellas and finger foods snacks. Play beach music and invite a dance teacher to show the children some fun dances. Play limbo, volley ball, and other beach party games.

Water Relay

For this game, you will need two 12 ounce plastic cups per child, two large buckets per team, and water. In advance, punch two or three medium-sized holes in the bottom of each plastic cup. Find a safe, non-slippery area outside the library to set up a relay course, and establish start and finish lines with chalk or tape. Set a bucket of water at the starting line for each team and an empty bucket for each team at the finish line. Divide the kids into teams of six or eight members. The first team member takes the cup, scoops water out of the bucket, races down to the other end, empties the cup into the empty bucket, and runs back to the start line, and hands the cup to the next team member. The process

is repeated until all team members have raced. The team with the most water in the second bucket wins a prize.

Depending upon the surface used, watch and make sure it does not become slippery during the activity.

Guest Speakers

Invite a representative from a local pet store or zoo, or a Texas Park Ranger, to talk about the species found in Texas waters.

Books to Display or Booktalk

Awesome Ocean Science! by Cindy Littlefield.

Cabin 102 by Sherry Garland.

Exploring an Ocean Tide Pool by Jeanne Bendick.

Flush by Carl Hiaasen.

Ocean Tide Pool by Arthur John L'Hommedieu.

Texas by Kathy Pelta.

Bulletin Boards

Feature creatures from the Texas Gulf on your bulletin board, using die cuts shapes, or patterns from other sources. Let the children draw their favorite sea creature, or use coloring pages.

The *DLTK's Crafts for Kids* web site at www.dltk-kids.com/animals/moceanposter.html has ocean coloring pages which can be made into posters.

Display

Display an aquarium with puppets and photos of various types of ocean life.

Videos/DVDs/Films

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Ocean Life. (26 minutes)

Rainbow Fish Fun and Games. (45 minutes)

Web Sites

Fish Olympics

www.diduknow.info/fish

This site includes four fish games that teach children about fish as they play.

Shark School

www.sdnhm.org/kids/sharks

This web site includes an FAQ about sharks, a glossary, information about shark anatomy, and games.

Professional Resources

Crafts for Kids Who Are Wild About Oceans by Kathy Ross.

Funny Riddles by Jacqueline Horsfall.

Region 2 US Fish and Wildlife Service

www.fws.gov/southwest/texas.html

Search this web site for information on many Texas attractions children will enjoy visiting or learning about.

Texas Parks and Wildlife

<http://tpwd.state.tx.us>

Texas Parks and Wildlife will allow you to find information about state parks, fishing, hunting, and Texas land and water.

Tour Texas

www.tourtexas.com

The *Tour Texas* web site will display lists of Texas attractions for children to visit in or near large and small cities throughout the State. It is by city and by region.

The Heart of Texas Critters

Books to Share

Armadillo by Mary Elise Monsell.

Armadillo from Amarillo by Lynne Cherry.

Armadillo Rodeo by Jan Brett.

Armadillo Tattle Tale by Helen Ketteman.

Chewing Gum Rattler by Joe Hayes.

How the Critters Created Texas by Francis Abernethy.

The Raft by Jim LaMarche.

Twelve Days in Texas by Donna Cooner.

Songs

The Ants Go Marching

Let the children make ants from black felt circles, with pipe cleaners for legs, and attach them to craft sticks for puppets. They can then hold up the appropriate number of ants for each verse of the song. Lyrics are available on the *Kididdles* web site at www.kididdles.com/lyrics/a009.html.

Home on the Range

Lyrics and a MIDI file are available on the *Kididdles* web site at www.kididdles.com/lyrics/h020.html.

She'll be Coming Round the Mountain.

Lyrics and a MIDI file are on the *Kididdles* web site at www.kididdles.com/lyrics/s004.html.

Riddles and Jokes

Knock Knock
Who's there?
Hiss
Hiss who
Hiss a rattlesnake jump back!

Let the children write jokes to answer the question, "Why did the armadillo cross the road?"

Give the children joke books and let them rewrite the jokes, adapting them to Texas critters. For example, let them write knock-knock jokes about Texas animals based on *101 Knock-knock Jokes: Guaranteed to Make Even a Sourpuss Smile* by Sam Schultz.

Reader's Theatre

Armando the Awkward Armadillo

This script by Gayle Travis is in the 2002 Texas Reading Club manual, *Read Across Texas*, at www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/2002/manual/scripts/armando.html.

The Three Little Pigs: In Texas That Is

(Adapted by Angela Sweet-Cloud. Used with permission. This may also be presented as a puppet show, or it may be performed as creative drama, also using puppets. Use one puppet for three pigs with different voices. You will also need a wolf and a salesman puppet. You will also need houses of straw, sticks, and bricks, and a title sign.)

Narrator: There were once 3 little pigs.

Pig #1: I am the French artist pig. (*French accent*)

Pig #2: I am an opera pig. (*Singing*)

Pig #3: I am a Texas cowboy pig. (*Texas accent*)

Narrator: The pigs decided to build houses. Now also in this story is a salesman who wanders the countryside with his cart of goods.

Salesman: Hi, I wander the countryside selling my cartload of goods.

Narrator: Anyway, it wasn't long before the first little pig...

Pig #1: The French artist pig. (*French accent*)

Narrator: ...met up with the salesman.

Pig #1: Hello, Salesman. I am looking for some material to build a house. Do you have anything?

Salesman: I have some very nice bricks. They would make a nice strong house.

Pig #1: No. No. No. Bricks are not artistic. I need something artistic.

Salesman: Well all I have are bricks, sticks, and straw.

Pig #1: Straw! That is perfect! I will take the straw to build my house.

Salesman: Straw is not very strong. Bricks will make a nice sturdy house.

Pig #1: Straw is artistic, you silly man. I will take the straw.

Narrator: So the salesman sold his straw to the first little pig. He charged extra because the pig was so silly. It wasn't long before the second little pig...

Pig #2: The opera pig. (*Singing*)

Narrator: ...met the salesman.

Pig #2: Hello, salesman. I am looking for some material to build my house.

Salesman: This brick is very strong and would make a wonderful house.

Pig #2: Ah, I see you have sticks. Sticks are very musical. I will take the sticks.

Salesman: Are you sure? Sticks are not very strong.

Pig #2: Of course. Now give me the sticks.

Narrator: So the salesman sold the second little pig the sticks. He charged even more for the sticks because he thought the second little pig was even sillier than the first.

Narrator: It wasn't long before the third little pig came along.

Pig #3: Howdy salesman. I'm looking for some good strong bricks to build my house.

Narrator: Well the salesman was very impressed.

Salesman: I'm impressed. Finally, a pig with common sense!

Narrator: So the third little pig...

Pig #3: The Texas cowboy pig.

Narrator: Right. So the Texas cowboy pig found a nice place near his two brothers' houses of straw and sticks to build his house of bricks. Now what the salesman and the three pigs didn't know was that all this time they were being watched - by none other than big bad wolf.

(Enter wolf)

Wolf: That's me and I know three pork dinners when I see them. I think I'll start with that French artist pig. I never liked art.

Narrator: So the big bad wolf went to the house of straw.

Wolf: *(Shouting)* Hello, artist pig.

Pig #1: That's French artist pig. What do you want wolf.

Wolf: I want to come in and look at your art.

Pig #1: I know better than that. My mother told me about wolves. You can't come in.

Wolf: Let me in or I'll blow your artistic house down.

Pig #1: Not by the hair of my chinny chin chin.

Wolf: Okay, Pig. I'm going to huff and puff and blow your house in.

Narrator: So the wolf, being as artistic as possible, blew the house of straw down. The little pig ran artistically to his musical brother's house with the wolf close behind.

Wolf: Okay little pigs, you better let me in.

Pig #2: *(Singing)* I am the opera singing pig. You may not come in.

Wolf: I'll blow your house down. Let me in!

Pig #2: *(Singing)* Not by the hair of my chinny chin chin.

Wolf: I'm gonna huff and puff and blow your house down.

Narrator: And the wolf blew the opera pig's musical house down and chased the two pigs to their brother's house of brick.

Pig #3: Hey, Wolf, I'm a Texas cowboy pig and there is no way you can huff and

puff and blow my house down. You won't get in. Not by the hair of our chinny chin chins.

Narrator: But the wolf huffed and puffed anyway.

Wolf: (*Makes heavy breathing noises*)

Narrator: And ran out of breath. But wolves don't give up easily.

Wolf: There has to be some way in. Ahh...I see a chimney. I'll climb down and surprise them.

Pig #3: I read in my library book that the best way to keep wolves out is to build a nice fire in the fireplace.

Narrator: The wolf climbed down the chimney and got a very hot surprise.

Wolf: (*Howls loudly*)

Pig #3: That library book was right. Don't mess with Texas pigs - or Texas libraries.

Narrator: The wolf was never seen again and the pigs went to their library to learn more about art, music, and building.

Stories

Coyote Stories

Tell coyote stories from the Native American tradition such as those in *Coyote and Native American Folk Tales* by Joe Hayes.

Crafts

Horned Lizard

The *Texas Parks and Wildlife Arts and Crafts* web site at http://tpwd.state.tx.us/kids/fun_stuff/arts_and_crafts/ features many Texas crafts. Let the children make the Horned Lizard craft at http://tpwd.state.tx.us/kids/fun_stuff/arts_and_crafts/south_texas_2horned_lizard.phtml, or another craft from this site.

Games and Activities

Texas Hokey Pokey

Do the hokey pokey with Texas critters. Let the children be inventive with the body parts that the critters can put in and out. Let them make up sounds for the animals as they sing.

Write a Reader's Theater Script

Let the children write a reader's theater script based on the book, *Chewing Gum Rattler* by Joe Hayes, or based on the book, *The Rattlesnake Who Went to School* by Craig Strete.

Guest Speakers

Invite a representative from a local parks department, pet store, zoo, or natural science museum to host a petting zoo for your library. Have one of these associations present a program about the critters in your area.

Invite a local petting zoo or animal trainer to talk about their habitats, and to bring some Texas animals.

Invite a ranger from Texas Parks and Wildlife to talk to the children.

Invite a zookeeper to tell the kids about the Texas critters at the zoo and how they take care of them. Make sure they talk about cost and care.

Invite a member of your community with turtles to bring their pets to the library and tell the children how to take care of them. Ask them to tell the children that turtles are being placed on the endangered list due to home building.

Books to Display or Booktalk

All About Rattlesnakes by Jim Arnosky.

Coyote Raid in Cactus Canyon by Jim Arnosky.

Critters of Texas Pocket Guide by Ann McCarthy.

Dallas Doc: All the City and Country Critters in the Life of a Texas-style Vet by David Carlton.

A Tarantula in My Purse by Jean Craighead George.

Toads on the Porch and Lizards in the House by Katie Callahan.

Bulletin Boards

Copy and color animals from the *Texas Parks and Wildlife Color Texas Animals* web page at www.tpwd.state.tx.us/adv/kidspage/colorpic.htm. Place a large map of Texas on the bulletin board and attach the animals in some of the areas of the State in which they live. Display the Texas critters in their biomes. For example: place coyotes, lizards and snakes in the desert; place armadillos, deer, and raccoons in the hill country; and place shorebirds and fish at the beach.

Display

Display photos and stuffed animals of Texas animals along with books about them.

Create trading cards with critters from throughout Texas, or just the critters found in your area.

Decorations

Using an overhead or opaque projector, create larger than life size critters from Texas. Let the children paint them, and then hang them throughout the library.

Audio Recordings

Critters, Colors and Clouds by Dr. Margaret Allen.

Cowboys, Critters and Such by Lisa Jastram.

Web Sites

Texas Parks and Wildlife - Texas Junior Naturalists

www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/junior_naturalists/critters.phtml

Discover the exciting world of the junior naturalists, and read about more than 142 species of Texas animals.

Professional Resources

101 Knock-knock Jokes: Guaranteed to Make Even a Sourpuss Smile by Sam Schultz.

Texas Parks and Wildlife

<http://tpwd.state.tx.us>

This site for Texas' outdoor enthusiasts, includes Texas crafts, maps, symbols, coloring pages, and many additional resources that will make your programs a success.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Texas Links

www.fws.gov/southwest/statelinks/texaslinks.htm

The Fish and Wildlife web site offers links to state and national web sites, and includes this page of links of Texas interest.

Deep in Salsa

Books to Share

Chicks and Salsa by Aaron Reynolds.

It's a Spoon Not a Shovel by Mark and Caralyn Buehner.

The Jalapeno Man by Debbie Leland.

West Texas Chili Monster by Judy Cox.

Songs

Sing "Coconut" by Harry Nilsson. Lyrics and an audio file are on the *NIEHS Kids* web site at <http://kids.niehs.nih.gov/lyrics/coconut.htm>.

Reader's Theater

The Little Old Lady Who Swallowed a Cake

(Adapted by Krissy Conn. Used with permission.)

I know an old lady who swallowed a cake.
Just freshly baked, she swallowed a cake.
Her tummy must ache!

I know an old lady who swallowed a plate.
She just couldn't wait to swallow that plate.

She swallowed the plate to put under the cake.
Just freshly baked, she swallowed a cake.
Her tummy must ache!

I know an old lady who swallowed ice cream.
Who wouldn't dream, of swallowing ice cream?

She swallowed the ice cream to sit next to the plate.
She swallowed the plate to put under the cake.
Just freshly baked she swallowed a cake.
Her tummy must ache!

I know an old lady who swallowed a balloon.
Oh what a loon to swallow a balloon.

She swallowed the balloon to float over the ice cream.
She swallowed the ice cream to sit next to the plate.
She swallowed the plate to put under the cake.
Just freshly baked she swallowed a cake.
Her tummy must ache!

I know an old lady who swallowed a hat.
Just like that, she swallowed a hat.

She swallowed the hat to match the balloon.
She swallowed the balloon to float over the ice cream.
She swallowed the ice cream to sit next to the plate.
She swallowed the plate to put under the cake.
Just freshly baked she swallowed a cake.
Her tummy must ache!

I know an old lady who swallowed a song.
It didn't take long to swallow a song.

She swallowed the song to sing wearing a hat.
She swallowed the hat to match the balloon.

She swallowed the balloon to float over the ice cream.
She swallowed the ice cream to sit next to the plate.
She swallowed the plate to put under the cake.
Just freshly baked she swallowed a cake.
Her tummy must ache!

I know an old lady who swallowed a candle.
I couldn't handle swallowing a candle.

She swallowed the candle to wish with the song.
She swallowed the song to sing wearing a hat.
She swallowed the hat to match the balloon.
She swallowed the balloon to float over the ice cream.
She swallowed the ice cream to sit next to the plate.
She swallowed the plate to put under the cake.
Just freshly baked she swallowed a cake.
Her tummy must ache!

But the little old lady, she wasn't so hearty.
When it all came back out....
She had swallowed a PARTY!

Jack and the Tall Legume

Perform "Jack and the Tall Legume (The Story They Never Told You)" from the book, *Silly Salamanders and Other Slightly Stupid Stuff for Readers Theatre* by Anthony D. Fredericks.

Crafts

Edible Jewelry

Make this craft from the book, *Super Duper Art & Craft Activity Book: Over 75 Indoor and Outdoor Projects for Kids* by Karen Johnson.

Materials

- Food with holes such as Cheerios® or macaroni, or soft foods such as grapes or kiwi

Directions

Let the children make edible jewelry by stringing food with holes, such as Cheerios® or macaroni. Or, let them string foods such as grapes or kiwi slices after poking holes with toothpicks.



Cascarones

Materials

- Egg shells
- Confetti or cut up paper
- Stickers or tape
- Markers or Paint

Directions

Cascarones are colored eggshells filled with confetti. The tradition is to crack them over another's head. In advance, collect egg shells from staff and patrons. To prepare them, they must poke holes in each end of the shell of a raw egg, blow the egg into a bowl and wash the eggshells well. The eggs may be scrambled or made into omelets. The children will fill them with colorful confetti, place stickers or tape over each end, and decorate the eggs with markers. Invite them to crack them over one another's heads - outside the library! Bags of confetti are available at craft stores.

Games and Activities

Science Experiments About Food

Invite a licensed nutritionist to your library to talk briefly about the profession and nutrition, and to help you lead some simple experiments. Gather the

children around several tables with science experiments about food from the book *730 Easy Science Experiments with Everyday Materials*, by E. Richard Churchill, Louis V. Loesshnig, and Muriel Mandell. Experiments include: "Making Muffet Food," (#48); "How Fat is It?" (#57); and "Some Like it Hot" (#103). Or, use the simple and easy food experiments from the *United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service* web site at www.fns.usda.gov/eatsmartplayhardkids/Library/FoodExperiments/experiments.htm.

Chips and Salsa Relay

Chips and Salsa is the official snack of Texas. Have a Salsa Relay outside or in a room without carpet. Divide children into 2 to 4 teams, depending upon the number of children and the amount of space available. Put a huge dollop of salsa on two chips for each team. Divide the teams in half, and station them at each end of the relay course. Begin the relay saying "Uno, dos, tres, SALSA." The children then run and pass their chips to their teammates. The race continues until the final salsa carrier arrives at the finish line. Sorry, no one can eat the chips...too many handoffs with germs! But the children can enjoy the untouched chips and salsa to celebrate. Play salsa music in the background.

Ice Cream in a Bag

Blue Bell Creameries, located in Brenham, Texas, celebrated its 100th birthday in 2007. Their motto is "The best ice cream in the country," and they celebrated their centennial with a "Taste of the Country" contest in which Blue Bell Ice Cream eaters were invited to "create an original for an ice cream flavor that represents the state in which they live." Let the children create "Ice Cream in a Bag" using the recipe at *Kaboose.com* at <http://crafts.kaboose.com/ice-cream-in-a-bag.html>. Provide the children with vanilla ice cream and additional ingredients such as candy toppings, sprinkles, or gummy worms. Children create, test, and taste their concoctions, and then write down their "secret" recipe, including careful measurements. Finally, they name the ice cream and proclaim that it is "The best ice cream in Your Library's Name." Calculate how many calories a serving has by adding the calories in the extra ingredients to the calories in the vanilla ice cream, and include a food label. Display the recipes on the *Yum in the Sun* bulletin board.

Guest Speakers

Invite a chef from a local eatery to share a recipe or two.

Books to Display or Booktalk

Authors in the Pantry: Recipes, Stories and More by Sharron L. McElmeel.

Chet Gecko's Detective Handbook (and Cookbook): Tips for Private Eyes and Snack Cool Foods for Fun Fiestas: Easy Recipes for Kids to Cook by Lisa Wagner.

Food Lovers by Bruce Hale.

Write Out of the Oven! Letters and Recipes from Children's Authors by Josephine Waltz.

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Bulletin Board

Yum in the Sun: Recipes for a Good Read

Cover a bulletin board with a tablecloth and include the title, "Yum in the Sun: Recipes for a Good Read." Surround the bulletin board with pictures or die cuts of favorite foods, and create a 3-D effect by attaching plastic forks and spoons. Or, surround the bulletin board with die cuts of crabs and attach the plastic forks and spoons to their claws. Provide index cards and let the children write their "Name", their favorite "Yummy Snack" and a "Good Read", or their favorite recipes. Add them to the bulletin board.

Display

Display books about nutrition and food, including joke and riddle books. Decorate a box and invite the children to fill it with canned goods to donate to the local food bank. The display will provide photo opportunities for children and families who participate. At the end of the reading program, donate the food to the local food bank.

Decorations

Decorate the children's activity room with pictures of giant chili peppers, tomatoes, and other Texas-themed ingredients. Write, "What's on your book bag?" on brown grocery bags, decorate them, and hang them on the walls.

Audio Recordings

Bon Appetit! Musical Food Fun by Cathy Fink and Marcy Marxer.

"Yes, We Have No Bananas" by Louis Prima on *Jazz For Kids: Sing, Clap, Wiggle and Shake* by various artists.

Web Sites

FDA Kid's Home Page

www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/kids/

Health information of interest to kids, including food safety, braces, Mad Cow Disease, and much more.

Kids Explore the World of Nutrition with Nutrition Explorations

www.nutritionexplorations.org/kids/main.asp

An entertaining web site for children about nutrition, from the National Dairy Council.

Kids Health

www.kidshealth.org/kid/body/digest_noSW.html

Children can explore health issues on this searchable web site.

PBS Kids - Cafe Zoom

www.pbs.org/wgbh/zoom/cafe/

Recipes for a variety of healthy foods for children, from PBS.

Spatulatta Cooking 4 Kids Online (video recipes)

www.spatulatta.com/index.html

This web site teaches children how to cook by demonstrating recipes on videos.

Texas Almanac: Flags and Other Symbols (Includes State foods)

www.texasalmanac.com/flags/

This is the online version of the *Texas Almanac*. It offers a wealth of Texas sources and information, including the Six Flags Over Texas.

United States Department of Agriculture

www.fns.usda.gov/eatsmartplayhardkids/Library/FoodExperiments/experiments.htm

The web site for the 2000 campaign to encourage children to eat healthy and exercise.

Professional Resources

730 Easy Science Experiments with Everyday Materials, by E. Richard Churchill, Louis V. Loesshnig, and Muriel Mandell

Belly Laughs by Charles Keller.

Fit Kids: A Practical Guide to Raising Active and Healthy Children, From Birth to Teens by Mary L. Gavin, MD, Steven A. Dowshen, MD, and Neil Izenberg, MD.

Macho Nacho and Other Rhyming Riddles by Giulio Maestro.

Silly Salamanders and Other Slightly Stupid Stuff for Readers Theatre by Anthony D. Fredericks.

Super Duper Art & Craft Activity Book: Over 75 Indoor and Outdoor Projects for Kids by Karen Johnson.

FamilyFun.com: Kid's Cooking Party

http://familyfun.go.com/parties/birthday/feature/famf0303_cookingparty/famf0303_cookingparty.html

This web site offers ideas and places to help with party planning.

Food Network: Cook with Your Kids

http://www.foodnetwork.com/food/If_kids/text/0,1904,FOOD_16382_19600,00.html

This web site from the Food Network channel encourages children and adults to cook together.

Happy Feet, Healthy Food Kids' Club

www.kidsrunning.com/krpublish.html

Information for kids about getting fit, having fun, and staying healthy.

Kaboose.com

<http://crafts.kaboose.com/ice-cream-in-a-bag.html>

This craft site includes instructions for creating "Ice Cream in a Bag."

Presidents Challenge for Kids

www.presidentschallenge.org/home_kids.aspx

This web site explains the President's Challenge for physical fitness and how children can earn their Presidential Fitness Award.

School Nutrition Association

www.schoolnutrition.org

This web site provides information about meals being offered at schools.

Southern Foodways Alliance

www.southernfoodways.com/

The Southern Foodways Alliance is a center that documents and celebrates food in the diverse cultures of the American South.

Texas Food Bank Network

www.tashfb.org

The web site for the Texas Food Bank encourages ending hunger in Texas.

The Heart of Texans

Books to Share

Bluebonnet at the East Texas Oil Museum by Mary Brooke Casad and Benjamin Vincent.

Buddy: The Story of Buddy Holly by Anne Bustard.

Hold Up the Sky: And Other Native American Tales from Texas and the Southern Plains by Jane Louise Curry.

Juneteenth by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson and Drew Nelson.

Miss Lady Bird's Wildflowers: How a First Lady Changed America by Kathi Appelt and Joy Fisher Hein.

Texas Rangers, Legendary Lawmen by Michael Spradlin.

Riddles and Jokes

Pull Texas riddles from *Geogra-Fleas! Riddles All Over the Map* by Joan Holub.

Reader's Theatre Script

Perform "Pecos Bill (A Really True Story Told by Four Honest Texans)" from *Silly Salamanders and Other Slightly Stupid Stuff for Readers Theatre* by Anthony D. Fredericks.

Crafts

Ranch Brands

Materials

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- Rope or yarn
- Construction paper
- Glue

Directions

Give the children a 2-foot length rope or yarn, and a sheet of construction paper, and let them create brands for a ranch based on their last names and family history. Examples of brands may be found in the “Brand Match Game Sheet” in *Read Across Texas*, the 2002 Texas Reading Club manual, at www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/2002/manual/elementary/brandmatch.html.

Additional brands are available at the *Cowboy Showcase* web site at www.cowboystack.com/brands.htm and on page 177 of *Once Upon a Planet: Program Guide for the Texas Reading Club, 1995* by Gayle A. Travis.

Games and Activities

Family Tree

Enchanted Learning at www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/familytree/tree/ features a simple crafts that allows children to record several generations. Tell the children about genealogy and family history. Then, show them the web site, or print information from it, and allow them to build a simple family tree. Let the children browse through library books on family history and genealogy.

Knot Tying Demonstration

Demonstrate how to tie a variety of knots. Directions are provided in a Boy Scout or Girl Scout Handbook or in most comprehensive camping books. Give each child two 10-inch pieces of rope and a stick and let them learn the knots as directed. Some basic knots are below. Illustrations of how to tie an overhand knot, a figure eight knot, a square knot, a clove hitch knot, a bowline knot, and a sheep shank knot are available in *Read Across Texas*, the 2002 Texas Reading Club manual, at

www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/2002/manual/elementary/texascowboys.html#game.

Texas Symbols

Prepare a matching sheet of Texas State Symbols and give a copy to each child. Some symbols are listed below, and more are listed on the Texas State Library and Archives Commission’s *About Texas* web site at www.tsl.state.tx.us/ref/abouttx/symbols.html.

Texas State Bird: *Mockingbird*

Texas State Dish: *Chili*

Texas State Flower: *Bluebonnet*

Texas State Gem: *Texas Blue Topaz*

Texas State Insect: *Monarch Butterfly*
Texas State Small Mammal: *Armadillo*
Texas State Large Mammal: *Longhorn*
Texas State Motto: *"Friendship"*
Texas State Plant: *Prickly Pear Cactus*
Texas State Reptile: *Texas Horned Lizard*
Texas State Snack: *Tortilla Chips and Salsa*
Texas State Song: *"Texas, Our Texas"*
Texas State Tree: *Pecan*

Who Am I?

Select famous Texans and write their names on index cards. As each child arrives, tape a card on his or her back. Begin the game by inviting the children to pretend that they are at a party of famous people. As they mingle, the children ask each other questions that help them guess the name on the index card on their backs. After a period of time, 10 minutes for example, ask the children who they are. A list of notable Texans is on the Texas State Library and Archives Commission's *About Texas* web site at www.tsl.state.tx.us/ref/abouttx/index.html#notables.

Cowboy Sayings

Teach the children some of the cowboy sayings below or create a handout and let them match the phrases with their meaning.

Mad as a peeled rattler (*Very angry*)
All horns and rattles (*Very angry*)
Barkin' at a knot (*Wasting your time, trying to do something useless*)
Doesn't use up all his kindlin' to make a fire (*Someone who doesn't waste words on small talk*)
Don't go wakin' snakes (*Don't start trouble*)
Above my huckleberry (*Too hard for me to do*)
Choker holes (*Doughnuts*)
Father the herd (*To bed down for the night*)
Grabbin' the apple (*Holding on to the saddle horn on a bucking horse*)
Hit the rail (*To travel or to leave*)
Kissed the ground (*Thrown from a horse*)

Load of hay on his skull (*Man with long hair*)
Pack the mail (*To ride fast*)
Rustler's pneumonia (*Cold feet, cowardly*)
Snorter (*Excitable horse*)
Talk like a Texan (*To boast of one's work or accomplishments*)
Wild willow West (*Dude ranch*)
Well, I swan! (*Exclamation of wonder*)

Guest Speakers

Invite speakers from local organizations such as museums and parks to talk about Texas and local history.

Invite long-standing members of your community to talk about local growth and change through the years.

Books to Display or Booktalk

John Barclay Armstrong: Texas Ranger by Judy Alter.

The Great Storm: The Hurricane Diary of J.T. King, Galveston, Texas, 1900 by Lisa Waller Rogers.

A Line in the Sand: The Alamo Diary of Lucinda Lawrence, Gonzales, Texas 1836 by Sherry Garland.

Raising La Belle by Mark Mitchell.

Survival in the Storm: The Dust Bowl Diary of Grace Edwards, Dalhart, Texas 1935 by Katelan Janke.

Web Sites

Ancestry.com

www.ancestry.com

This is a searchable web site for researching ancestors and building a family tree.

Heritage Quest

www.heritagequest.com

A searchable web site for tracing family roots.

The White House

www.whitehouse.gov/kids/presidents/

This web site keeps children posted on all the happenings at the White House and includes videos of events that have occurred there. At

www.whitehouse.gov/history/firstladies/index.html, children can learn about first ladies and their accomplishments.

Professional Resources

About Texas

www.tsl.state.tx.us/ref/abouttx/symbols.html

This Texas State Library and Archives Commission web site includes a list of Texas State Symbols that may be used to prepare a matching sheet. A list of notable Texans is available at

www.tsl.state.tx.us/ref/abouttx/index.html#notables.

Enchanted Learning

www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/familytree/tree/

This site features simple crafts, including a family tree craft.

Geogra-Fleas! Riddles All Over the Map by Joan Holub.

Silly Salamanders and Other Slightly Stupid Stuff for Readers Theatre by Anthony D. Fredericks.

Junior Texas Rangers

www.texasranger.org/jrRangers/jrRangers.htm

This web site allows children to join the Texas Junior Rangers.

Library of Congress Kids and Families

www.loc.gov/families/

This web site allows kids access to the Library of Congress and offers projects and news about many of its events.

StoryCorps

www.storycorps.net/your-community

At *StoryCorps*, children may listen to or record stories, including stories about family and local history.

Texas Historical Commission Fundamentals of Oral History

www.thc.state.tx.us/publications/guidelines/OralHistory.pdf

Texas Historical Commission web site includes many resources, including information on how to record local history.

Texas Ranger Research Center

www.texasranger.org/ReCenter/popular.htm

Explore the history of the Texas Rangers with this historical research web site.

Texas State Historical Association Speakers Bureau

www.tshaonline.org/

Librarians may use this database to locate speakers for library programs.

Deep in Texas Tall Tales

Books to Share

Cowboy and the Black-eyed Pea by Tony Johnston.

2009 Texas Reading Club Manual

Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!

Published by the Library Development Division of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Austin, Texas 2009.

The Legend of the Bluebonnet by Tomie dePaola.

The Legend of the Indian Paintbrush by Tomie dePaola.

Legend of Pecos Bill by Terry Small.

Why Cowgirls are Such Sweet Talkers by Laurie Knowlton.

Why Cowboys Sleep with Their Boots On by Laurie Knowlton.

Songs

Deep in the Heart of Texas

Lyrics and a MIDI file are on the *NIEHS Kids Page* at <http://kids.niehs.nih.gov/lyrics/texas.htm>.

The Yellow Rose of Texas

A MIDI file and lyrics on the *NIEHS Kids Page* at <http://kids.niehs.nih.gov/lyrics/yellowrose.htm>.

Riddles and Jokes

Select jokes to tell from *Texas! 500 Jokes of the Lone Star State* by Boyce House.

Visit *Texas Tales, Jokes and Anecdotes* by John Watson at

<http://buckcreek.tripod.com/texas.html> and select some jokes to tell.

Knock Knock.
Who's there?
Beep.
Beep who.
Beep Beep Roadrunner

Knock Knock.
Who's there?
Summer.
Summer who?
Summer Reading Club is here!

Reader's Theatre

The Cowboy Who Cried Coyote

Let the children read, "The Cowboy Who Cried Coyote" by Gayle Travis, in *Read Across Texas*, the 2002 Texas Reading Club manual, at www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/2002/manual/scripts/criedcoyote.html.

The Ballad of Ginger Fella

Let the children read, "The Ballad of Ginger Fella" by Missy Edgemon, in *Read Across Texas*, the 2002 Texas Reading Club manual, at www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/2002/manual/scripts/gingerfella.html.

Select a script from *Frontier Fogs and Other Frankly Fractured Folktales for Reader's Theatre* by Anthony Fredricks or *Multicultural Folktales: Reader's Theatre for Elementary Students* by Suzanne I Barchers.

Stories to Tell

Tell a tall tale about an historical figure such as Daniel Boone, Jim Bowie, Davy Crockett, or a character from folklore such as Pecos Bill.

Craft

Bluebonnet Flowers

Materials

- Popped corn
- Blue tempera paint
- Crepe paper
- Pipe cleaners
- Optional: Buttons

Directions

In advance, place popped corn in a paper bag with blue tempera paint. The children glue the blue popcorn "petals" onto a green pipe cleaner stem, and attach leaves made from green pipe cleaner or green crepe paper. An alternative is to use blue buttons as petals.



Vaquero Pantene Puppet

Materials

- Brass fasteners
- Construction paper or card stock
- Colors

Directions

Copy the pantene puppet pattern at www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/2002/manual/clipart/cowboy.html, from the Elementary Chapter of *Read Across Texas*, the 2002 Texas Reading Club manual, *Read Across Texas* onto card stock. Or, copy the pattern onto regular paper, cut the pieces out, and glue them to construction paper. Let the children color the

pattern pieces, cut them out, assemble them with brass fasteners, and play with their puppets.

Guest Speakers

Invite a singing cowboy or a Texas storyteller to tell their favorite tall tales.

Books to Display or Booktalk

Brian Robertson's Favorite Texas Tales by Brian Robertson.

Ghost Stories of Old Texas by Zinita Fowler.

Hold up the Sky by Jane Curry.

The Legend of Lone Star Bear by Remi Kramer.

Pecos Bill: A Tall Tale by Steven Kellogg.

Tales from the Home Place by Burandt and Shelley Dale.

Bulletin Boards

Affix pictures of tall tale characters onto the bulletin board along with book covers of tall tales. Let the children write and illustrate tall tales, or draw pictures of characters from tall tales, and add them to the bulletin board.

Display

Display books of Texas tall tales.

Decorations

Hang or display cowboys, boots, paintbrushes, corn husks dolls, bluebonnets, the shape of Texas, and other cowboy-related items around the library.

Incentives

Ask your local hardware store to donate bluebonnet seeds for the children to plant in small pots, garden areas, or a window box.

Videos/DVD's/Films

The Legend of the Bluebonnet. (20 minutes)

Pecos Bill: King of Cowboys. (49 minutes)

Professional Resources

Frontier Fogs and Other Frankly Fractured Folktales for Reader's Theatre by Anthony Fredricks.

Multicultural Folktales: Reader's theatre for Elementary Students by Suzanne I Barchers.

Texas! 500 Jokes of the Lone Star State by Boyce House.

American Folklore

www.americanfolklore.net/folktales/tx.html

This site features folklore from across the U.S., including Texas stories. Tongue twisters are also included at www.americanfolklore.net/tonguetwisters.html.

Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame

www.texascowboyhalloffame.com

The Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame honors people who participate in rodeo events and excel at them.

Texas Tales, Jokes and Anecdotes

<http://buckcreek.tripod.comtexas.html>

Features jokes to tell to children at storytime programs.

Texas Theatres

www.texas theatres.org

The Texas Nonprofit Theatre web site encourages community theatres in Texas and includes scripts for children's plays, musicals, including one act plays.

Tune in to Texas Stories

www.texasstories.com

On this site, children can learn about the Lone Star State and how to be a Texan. The site includes audio files of stories.

Science and Math Programs Chapter

By Christine McNew

Introduction

Try some of these exciting hands-on science and math activities this summer! All are fun and educational and can be easily and inexpensively presented. Browse through the links and select activities to include in your weekly library programs for preschoolers and elementary school-age children. Or, begin a weekly or monthly science club at your library!

All of the programs have literature connections, and many are based on children's picture books that librarians may read at the program. Gather, display, and booktalk science and math books from your collection to share with children and families at your programs. For lists of picture books with science and math concepts that children will enjoy, visit the *Vermont Center for the Book* at www.mothergooseprograms.org/math_science_book_lists.php.

Science and Math Activities for Preschool Children

PBS Kids

Select activities from this list of *PBS Kids* programs to include in preschool storytimes.

Curious George Discovery Guide - Overview

http://www-tc.pbskids.org/curiousgeorge/parentsteachers/activities/pdf/CGDG_01_overview.pdf

Math Investigation: Grouping and Graphing

http://www-tc.pbskids.org/curiousgeorge/parentsteachers/activities/pdf/CGDG_03_math.pdf

Science Investigation: Blow Wind Blow

http://www-tc.pbskids.org/curiousgeorge/parentsteachers/activities/pdf/CGDG_04_science.pdf

ZOOM, the PBS Kids Show Science!

<http://pbskids.org/zoom/activities/preschool/#science>.

What's the BIG Idea?

Children from ages 4 to 8 can be scientists or mathematicians. They can detect it, solve it, dig it up, discover it, find it, and explain it while enjoying these early math and science activities. Just download the PDF file of *What's the BIG Idea? Summer Reading Program Guide* at www.mothergooseprograms.org/osc/product_info.php?products_id=2651 and you are on your way. These activities were developed specifically for public

librarians by the Vermont Center for the Book with a grant from the National Science Foundation.

Science and Math Activities for Elementary School Children

Aha! Science

Explore dozens of science experiments and handouts on the *Aha! Science* web site at <http://library.carr.org/aha/default.asp> and share them with children at your library this summer! This site also includes links to space-related programs at <http://library.carr.org/aha/adobe/space.pdf>. It was created by staff from the Carroll County Public Library in Carroll County, Maryland.

Dragonfly TV!

Try these cool experiments from PBS *DragonflyTV!* at <http://pbskids.org/dragonflytv/superdoit/index.html>.

Explore! Fun with Science

Explore space and planetary science with exciting activities and lessons from the *Lunar and Planetary Institute* at www.lpi.usra.edu/education/explore/. All of the following *Explor-ation* activities were developed specifically for public librarians!

Mars: Inside and Out!

www.lpi.usra.edu/education/explore/mars/

Health in Space

www.lpi.usra.edu/education/explore/space_health/

To the Moon and Beyond! – with NASA's LRO Mission

www.lpi.usra.edu/education/explore/LRO/

Rockets

www.lpi.usra.edu/education/explore/rockets/

Space Stations

www.lpi.usra.edu/education/explore/stations/

Space Colonies

www.lpi.usra.edu/education/explore/colonies/

Space Capsules

www.lpi.usra.edu/education/explore/capsules/

Solar System

www.lpi.usra.edu/education/explore/solar_system/

Comets

www.lpi.usra.edu/education/explore/comets/

Shaping the Planets

www.lpi.usra.edu/education/explore/shaping_the_planets/

Our Place in Space

www.lpi.usra.edu/education/explore/our_place/activity_glance.shtml

Ruff Guide to Science

Offer hands-on activities for children ages 8 to 10 from the PBS kid's show, FETCH! with Ruff Ruffman. The free *Ruff Guide to Science* includes six activities and a game about exciting science careers. It also includes a list of science books, selected by librarians, leader notes, direction sheets that can be photocopied for kids, tips on recruiting kids from your community, and membership cards to start a weekly FETCH Club. No television viewing is required. All activities include easy-to-find, inexpensive materials that won't break your budget. To order your FREE copy, e-mail fetchnews@wgbh.org and include your name, organization, email, phone number, and mailing address. Please indicate whether you are including a work or home address.

San Francisco's Exploratorium

Enjoy *Exploratorium: Hands-On Activities* at www.exploratorium.edu/explore/handson.html.

Or, try some *Exploratorium: Exploratoria Sample Activities* at www.exploratorium.edu/exploratoria/activities.html.

Science Extravaganzas! Librarian Test Librarian Approved

Children of all ages will have fun discovering *Science Extravaganzas! Librarian Test Librarian Approved* by Janice Van Cleave, at www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/pubs/scienceextra/.

This manual was published by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission in 1998.

ZOOM, the PBS Kids Show Science!

Have fun with games and activities from *ZOOM, the PBS Kids Show Science!*

Visit *ZOOM Phenom - Explore Weird Things That Happen* at

<http://pbskids.org/zoom/activities/phenom/> and enjoy fun activities with everyday objects! Or, visit *ZOOM Sci - Mix Hot Science With Your Cool Ideas!* at

<http://pbskids.org/zoom/activities/sci/> for exciting and easy activities about chemistry, engineering, the five senses, forces, life sciences, patterns, sounds, structures, and water.

Public Libraries as Partners in Education

These science and math activities support public libraries in becoming partners in education. They are aligned with the Texas Education Agency (TEA) *Prekindergarten Curriculum Guidelines*, *Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)*, and with national educational standards. Browse through the links below to learn about the standards that the math and science activities you select

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support, and let parents know that the activities will help their children in succeed in school.

Prekindergarten Curriculum Guidelines

http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/ed_init/pkguidelines/index.html

Science - Essential Knowledge and Skills for Grades K - 8

www.tea.state.tx.us/rules/tac/chapter112/index.html

Math - Essential Knowledge and Skills for Grades K - 8

www.tea.state.tx.us/rules/tac/chapter111/index.html

Visit the *PBS Parents' Child Development Tracker* for a description of developmentally appropriate math and science knowledge and skills for children from 1 to 9. Just select an age from and click on *Mathematics and Science*. You will want to share this site with parents!

PBS Parents' Child Development Tracker

www.pbs.org/parents/childdevelopment/

To become a partner with a science center in your community, visit *DragonflyTV's Find a Science Center* at http://pbskids.org/dragonflytv/gps/gps_localize.php and scroll through this list of Texas science museums, hands-on science centers, natural history museums, zoos, arboretums, aquariums, and children's museums. Invite representatives from the science centers in your community to provide programs at your library, and encourage children and families to visit them.

Bibliography

Key to abbreviations for age recommendations

T=Toddler

P=Preschool

I=Elementary

L=For the Librarian

+ = "and up" All ages above the one listed will find the book of interest.

OP= Out of Print

Books

Abernathy, Francis.

How the Critters Created Texas. Ellen C Temple, 1982. (I)

An Indian folktale about how Texas was created by its critters.

Aliki.

Milk from Cow to Carton. HarperTrophy, 1992. (P-I)

Follow milk as it makes its journey from a cow to various milk products.

Aliki.

My Visit to the Dinosaurs. HarperCollins, 1985. (P-I)

A boy visits the Natural History Museum and learns about several types of dinosaurs.

Alter, Judy.

John Barclay Armstrong: Texas Ranger. Bright Sky, 2007. (P+)

The story of John Barclay Armstrong and how he helped shape the State of Texas.

Appelt, Kathi.

Down Cut Shin Creek: The Packhorse Librarians of Kentucky. HarperCollins, 2001. (I)

This is the story of packhorse librarians of Kentucky who used horses to deliver books.

Appelt, Kathi.

Incredible Me! HarperCollins, 2003. (P)

"I'm the one, the only, incredible Me!" That says it all.

Appelt, Kathi.

Miss Lady Bird's Wildflowers: How a First Lady Changed America. HarperCollins, 2005. (I+)

A biography of Lady Bird Johnson focusing on her efforts to plant wildflowers along America's highways and the transformation of America's roadsides.

Arnosky, Jim.

All About Rattlesnakes. Scholastic, 2002. (P – I)

This is a simple, non-fiction book about rattlesnakes and their lives.

Arnosky, Jim.

Coyote Raid In Cactus Canyon. Putnam, 2005. (P-I)

Discover the antics of four coyotes that meet up with a rattlesnake.

Asch, Frank.

Moonbear's Pet. Aladdin, 2000. (T-P)

Moonbear adopts what he thinks is a fish for a pet.

Asch, Frank.

Mooncake. Aladdin, 2000. (P)

Bear wants to taste the moon, so he builds a rocket to take him there.

Asim, Jabari.

Whose Toes Are Those? Little Brown, 2006. (T)

Children can play "This Little Piggy" while reading this interactive book.

Avi.

Who Stole the Wizard of Oz? Knopf, 1990. (I)

Becky and her sibling follow clues to discover who stole books from the library.

Baer, Edith

This is the Way We Eat Our Lunch. Scholastic, 1990. (P)

Take a lunchtime tour around the world.

Baer, Gene.

Thump, Thump, Rat-a-Tat-Tat. HarperCollins, 1989. (T-P)

Children watch a marching band go by and explore all the sounds in the story and the shapes in the illustrations.

Barry, Frances.

Duckie's Rainbow. Candlewick, 2004. (T-P)

Duckie takes a colorful walk to see a rainbow.

Barton, Byron.

Dinosaurs, Dinosaurs. HarperTrophy, 1993. (P-I)

Several species of dinosaurs are illustrated in a simple format appropriate for preschool age children.

Barton, Byron.

I Want to Be an Astronaut. HarperTrophy, 1992. (P)

Children learn what it is like to be an astronaut and take a trip into space.

Bascope, Cassie.

Texas Family Style: Great Places to Go to Have Fun with Your Kids. Lone Star, 1988. (I-L)

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- Places that children and families can go in Texas to have fun.
- Bayer, Jane.
A, My Name is Alice. Puffin, 1992. (T-P)
Meet animals from all over the world based on the ABC's.
- Bendick, Jeanne.
Exploring an Ocean Tide Pool. Henry Holt, 1992. (I)
Discover tidal pools and the creatures that live in them.
- Berger, Melvin.
Fish Sleep But Don't Shut Their Eyes - And Other Amazing Facts About Ocean Creatures. Scholastic, 2004. (P – I)
Explore the world of the ocean through pictures while learning fun facts about sea creatures.
- Birdseye, Tom.
Oh Yeah! Holiday House, 2003. (P-I)
Two friends camp out in the back yard and fight to show their bravery over imagined dangers.
- Birney, Betty.
Tyrannosaurus Tex. Houghton Mifflin, 1996. (I)
Tyrannosaurus Tex has to take care of the bad guys in this Texas-Dinosaur cowboy book.
- Blackstone, Stella.
Ship Shapes. Barefoot, 2006. (T)
Discover various shapes that make up different types of boats.
- Boynton, Sandra.
Horns to Toes and In Between. Little Simon, 1995. (T)
Funny creatures show off their body parts in this very entertaining book.
- Boynton, Sandra.
One, Two, Three! Workman, 1993. (T-P)
A very silly counting book with very silly animals.
- Bredeson, Carmen.
Astronauts. Scholastic, 2004. (P-I)
Photos with simple text introduce beginning readers to the activities and duties of astronauts.
- Bredeson, Carmen.
Liftoff! Children's Press, 2003. (P-I)
Photos with simple text introduce beginning readers to some of the preparations that take place before the launch of a space shuttle.

Brett, Jan.

Armadillo Rodeo. Putnam, 1995. (P-I)

A story about an armadillo and his life at the Curly H Ranch.

Bridwell, Norman.

Clifford's Family. Scholastic, 1984. (T-P)

Learn about Clifford the big red dog's family.

Briggs, Diane.

52 Programs for Preschoolers: The Librarian's Year-Round Planner. American Library Association, 1997. (L)

This book includes storytime programs for preschoolers. The author includes books, songs, rhymes, fingerplays, flannel boards and craft ideas.

Brock, Marilyn.

Finger Frolics 2. Gryphon, 1996. (L)

Fingerplays for young children.

Bruss, Deborah.

Book! Book! Book! Scholastic, 2001. (P-I)

The animals on the farm are bored and decide to take a trip into town and visit the library.

Buehner, Mark & Carlyn.

It's a Spoon Not a Shovel. Puffin, 1998. (P-I)

A quizzical book on how things should be done properly. If you answer the question, you may be surprised at the answer the book provides.

Bunting, Eve.

Flower Garden. Voyager, 2000. (P-I)

A young city girl plants a small window box flower garden as a surprise for her mother.

Bustard, Anne.

Buddy: The Story of Buddy Holly. Simon and Schuster, 2005. (I)

The biography of Buddy Holly, a Texas musician who created a new kind of music.

Callahan, Katie.

Toads on the Porch and Lizards in the House. Kennickell, 1983. (I)

A collection of stories about the two-legged and four-legged creatures on Hilton Head Island.

Carle, Eric.

From Head to Toe. HarperCollins, 1997. (T)

This book invites children to move their bodies like various animals.

Carle, Eric.

Have You Seen My Cat? Simon & Schuster, 1991. (T-P)

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A missing cat causes a little boy to worry. As the boy tries to find the cat, he meets a lot of interesting and helpful people.

Carle, Eric.

Papa, Please Get the Moon for Me. Simon and Schuster, 1999. (P)

A little girl wants to play with the moon. Her father climbs until he is able to get the moon and give it to her to play with. This book introduces preschoolers to the phases of the moon.

Carlton, David.

Dallas Doc: All the City and Country Critters in the Life of a Texas-style Vet. Bridgeline, 1999. (I)

A veterinarian's stories about his life as an animal doctor.

Carter, David A.

600 Black Spots: A Pop-up Book for Children of All Ages. Little Simon, 2007. (T-P)

Can you find all the black spots in this pop-up book?

Carter, David.

Alpha Bugs. Little Simon, 2006. (T-P)

This pop-up book teaches the alphabet with bugs.

Casad, Mary Brooke.

Bluebonnet at Dinosaur Valley State Park. Pelican, 1990. (P-I)

Take a trip with an armadillo named Bluebonnet to the Dinosaur Valley State Park.

Casad, Mary Brooke.

Bluebonnet at the East Texas Oil Museum. Pelican, 2005. (P-I)

An armadillo named Bluebonnet takes his family for a trip to an oil museum.

Cauley, Lorinda Bryan.

Clap Your Hands. Putnam, 1997. (T-P)

This interactive book will have children clapping their hands and stomping their feet.

Cherry, Lynne.

Armadillo from Amarillo. Harcourt Brace, 1994. (P-I)

An armadillo travels and discovers Texas.

Child, Lauren.

I Want A Pet. Tricycle Press, 1999. (T-P)

A little girl decides she wants a pet. How will she cope with a lion, a wolf, or a sheep?

Clifford, Rowan.

Rodeo Ron and his Milkshake Cows. Random House, 2005. (P-I)

Rodeo Ron has four colorful cows. He challenges everyone to a contest to see which is better, milkshakes made from the milk of his cows or sodas.

Cole, Henry.

On Meadowview Street. HarperCollins, 2007. (P-I)

Caroline and her parents encourage wildflowers to grow in their yard. Soon the whole street joins in and their street "Meadowview" begins to live up to its name.

Cooke, Paul.

Natural Wonders of Texas: A Guide to Parks, Preserves and Wild Places. Country Roads, 1995. (I-L)

Places for exploring the outdoors with activities at those places.

Cooner, Donna.

Twelve Days in Texas. Hendrick-Long, 1944. (P-I)

Set to the song of "The Twelve Days of Christmas," this book tells of plants and animals in Texas that are given as gifts.

Cooney, Barbara.

Miss Rumphius. Puffin, 1985. (I)

Miss Rumphius decides to make the world a beautiful place by planting wildflowers wherever she can.

Cousins, Lucy.

Hooray for Fish! Candlewick, 2005. (T-P)

Fish come in all shapes, sizes, colors, and families in this book.

Cousins, Lucy.

Pet Animals. Candlewick, 1990. (T)

In this book, children explore different types of animals that may be kept as pets.

Cousins, Lucy.

Maisy Goes Camping. Candlewick, 2004. (P)

Maisy and friends have an adventurous camping trip.

Cowley, Joy.

Mrs. Wishy-Washy's Farm. Penguin, 2003. (P-I)

The animals of the farm decide they are tired of being given baths by Mrs. Wishy-Washy. They escape to the city where they have many adventures and end up in need of a bath. At the end, being bathed by Mrs. Wishy Washy doesn't seem so bad after all.

Cox, Judy.

West Texas Chili Monster. Troll, 2003. (I)

An alien, smelling the chili from a cook-off, comes to eat all the chili in sight.

Crews, Donald.

Freight Train. Greenwillow, 1978. (T-P)

Follow a train on a journey that explores colors and goes on and on until it finally disappears.

Crews, Nina.

One Hot Summer Day. HarperCollins, 1995. (P-I)

Using color photos, Nina Crews, illustrates one child's fun and adventurous summer day.

Cronin, Doreen.

Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type. Spotlight, 2004. (P-I)

The animals find an old typewriter and send Farmer Brown lists of requests. When Farmer Brown refuses to comply with their demands, the animals go on strike.

Cross, Becky.

I Am a Space Shuttle, I Love to Fly. Perspective, 2004. (I)

Book of photos depicting the space shuttle from take-off to landing.

Cubley, Kathleen

The Best of Totline Flannelboards. Frank Schaffer, 2000. (L)

A compilation of flannelboard stories and patterns, arranged seasonally.

Cummins, Julie.

The Inside-Outside Book of Libraries. Dragonfly, 2008. (I)

Discover the differences between libraries across our country.

Curry, Jane Louise.

Hold Up the Sky: And Other Native American Tales from Texas and the Southern Plains. McElderry, 2003. (I)

A collection of twenty-six Native American stories are retold.

Curtis, Jamie Lee.

Tell Me Again About the Night I Was Born. HarperTrophy, 2000. (T-P)

A warm tale of family love and adoption.

Cushman, Doug.

ABC Mystery. HarperTrophy, 1996. (T-P)

Follow and solve a mystery while learning the alphabet.

Dahl, Michael

Dino Rib Ticklers. Picture Window, 2003. (P-I)

Each page contains a dinosaur joke or riddle complete with an illustration. It is a good book for preschoolers who are just beginning to understand riddles and jokes.

Dahl, Michael.

On the Launch Pad: A Counting Book About Rockets. Picture Window, 2004. (P-I)

A counting book that uses the numbers 1 through 12 to describe a rocket launch.

Dailey, Susan.

A Storytime Year: A Month-to-Month Kit for Preschool Programming. Neal-Schuman, 2000. (L)

- This book includes storytime plans for the entire year with rhymes, songs, fingerplays, books, flannel boards, and activities for each theme.
- Dale, Burandt and Shelley.
Tales from the Home Place. Dell, 1999. (I)
This is a collection of stories about a twelve-year-old living on a cotton farm in Texas in the 1930's.
- Davis, Katie.
Who Hops? Voyager, 2001. (T-P)
This is a great story about how animals get around.
- Davis, Robin.
Toddle on Over. Highsmith, 1998. (L)
This book contains storytime themes, rhymes, fingerplays, and crafts for toddlers.
- De Brunhoff, Laurent.
Babar's Rescue. Harry N. Abrams, 2004. (P-I)
Babar and his daughter go on a camping trip. When Babar is captured, his daughter Isabelle must rescue him.
- Deedy, Carmen.
The Library Dragon. Peachtree, 1994. (P+)
A librarian changes when she realizes that books are for the enjoyment of children.
- dePaola, Tomie.
The Legend of the Bluebonnet. Putnam, 1996. (P+)
A Native American folktale about how the origins of the bluebonnet, which sprang up due to the bravery and generosity of a child.
- dePaola, Tomie.
The Legend of the Indian Paintbrush. Putnam, 1988. (P+)
A Native American legend about the origins of the native Texas flower, the Indian Paintbrush.
- Dorros, Arthur.
Abuela. Puffin, 1997. (T-P)
A girl and her grandmother fly through New York.
- Duke, Kate.
Twenty is Too Many. Dutton, 2000. (T-P)
Twenty guinea pigs on a boat are too many.
- Eastman, P.D.
Are You My Mother? Random House, 1960. (T-P)
A lost baby bird tries to find his way back home.

Ehlert, Lois.

Color Zoo. HarperCollins, 1989. (T)
Children look at zoo animals in various colors.

Ehlert, Lois.

Eating the Alphabet: Fruits and Vegetables from A to Z. Harcourt, 1989. (T-P)
Fruits and vegetables become recognizable to toddlers as they explore the alphabet.

Ehlert, Lois.

Fish Eyes: A Book You Can Count On. Harcourt, 1990. (T-P)
Children can count from one to ten in this book that follows fish through their environment.

Ehlert, Lois.

Planting a Rainbow. Aladdin, 1992. (P-I)
This beautifully illustrated book has a rainbow of flowers.

Erickson, John.

Hank the Cowdog. Viking, 1999. (I)
A series of books about the adventures of a range dog named Hank.

Ernst, Lisa.

Stella Louella's Runaway Book. Simon and Schuster, 1998. (P-I)
While trying to find the book she must return, Stella gathers others who have read her book.

Feiffer, Jules.

Bark, George. Laura Geringer, 1999. (T-P)
George the puppy expresses himself in many different ways.

Fischer, Scott.

Twinkle. Simon and Schuster, 2007. (P-I)
Experience a twist on "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" that includes an interplanetary voyage and adventure.

Flanagan, Alice K.

Exploring the Library. Gareth Stevens, 2001. (I)
A book full of information about libraries, including shelving and other activities.

Flanagan, Alice.

Raising Cows on the Koebels' Farm. Children's Press, 1999. (P-I)
A non-fiction book, that describes the activities that happen on a dairy farm.

Fleming, Denise.

Alphabet Under Construction. Henry Holt, 2002. (T-P)
Mouse constructs the entire alphabet by making letters in artistic ways.

Fleming, Denise.

Barnyard Banter. Henry Holt, 1997. (T-P)

Learn the sounds animals make on this noisy farm.

Fleming, Denise.

Mama Cat Has Three Kittens. Henry Holt, 1998. (T-P)

Mama cat has three kittens; two are really good, but one does exactly what he wants to do.

Florian, Doug.

Comets, Stars, the Moon and Mars: Space Poems and Paintings. Harcourt, 2007. (P+)

A poetry book about space, including comets, stars, the moon, and mars.

Fowler, Zinita.

Ghost Stories of Old Texas. Eakin, 1983. (I)

A collection of ghost stories set in Texas.

Fox, Christyan.

Astronaut PiggyWiggy. Handprint, 2002. (P)

PiggyWiggy imagines what it would be like to be an astronaut.

Fox, Diane.

Tyson the Terrible. Bloomsbury, 2006. (P-I)

Three dinosaur children are afraid of Tyson the Terrible, until they actually meet him.

Fox, Mem.

Whoever You Are. Voyager, 2006. (P)

Even though children around the world have different homes, food and languages, they all laugh, love, and cry.

Frank, John.

The Toughest Cowboy: Or How the Wild West was Tamed. Simon and Schuster, 2004. (P-I)

Cowboys' lives are turned upside down when one of them decides to get a poodle. This book was nominated for a Bluebonnet Award.

Frank, Vivien.

Make a Book! Frances Lincoln, 2000. (L)

Learn how to make a Thai folding book, a newspaper, a flipbook, a Japanese scroll, a Book of Hours, and a movable book.

Freedman, Claire.

One Magical Day. Good Books, 2007. (P-I)

Illustrates the magical summer day various animals experience from rising in the morning, until sunset.

Gag, Wanda.

Millions of Cats. Putnam, 2004. (P)

When a man can't decide which cat he wants to keep, he brings them all home!

Garland, Sherry.

Children of the Dragon: Selected Stories from Vietnam. Harcourt, 2001. (I)

This book contains a collection of six Vietnamese folk tales.

Garland, Sherry.

A Line in the Sand: the Alamo Diary of Lucinda Lawrence. Scholastic, 1998. (I)

The journal of Lucinda Lawrence, who describes her hardships in Texas, is given to a young girl in this volume of the Dear American Series.

Garland, Sherry.

Cabin 102. Harcourt Brace, 1995. (I)

Find out how Dusty overcomes his fear of drowning while on an ocean cruise.

George, Jean Craighead.

A Tarantula in My Purse. Harper Trophy, 1997. (I)

A collection of stories about Ms. George's life and the animals in it.

Gershator, Phillis.

Summer is Summer. Henry Holt, 2006. (P-I)

The fun of being out of school is shown through the eyes of four friends as they explore their world during summer vacation.

Getz, David.

Floating Home. Henry Holt, 2000. (I)

Take a walk with Maxine around her neighborhood and all the way to outer space.

Gibbons, Gail.

The Milk Makers. Aladdin, 1987. (P-I)

A non-fiction book that follows the production of milk from the cow to the store.

Gibbons, Gail.

The Moon Book. Holiday House, 1997. (I)

First book for children giving information about the moon.

Giles, Andreae.

Commotion in the Ocean. Little Tiger, 1998. (P-I)

A collection of rhymes and poems about ocean creatures.

Graham, Ian.

My Book of Space. Kingfisher, 2001. (P+)

An introduction to the world of outer space with many illustrations to explore.

Greene, Rhonda Gowler.

Where A Line Bends... A Shape Begins. Houghton Mifflin, 1997. (T-P)

- Ten basic shapes are explained through rhyme and great examples.
- Greenstein, Elaine.
One Little Seed. Penguin, 2004. (P)
Follow the life of a sunflower from seed to flower to seed again.
- Grimmer, Glenda.
Things That Swim in Texas. Eakin, 1989. (I)
Animals that live in our Texas waters are presented in alphabetical order.
- Grimmer, Glenna.
ABCs of Texas Wildflowers. Eakin, 1982. (I)
Texas wildflowers are featured in this ABC book.
- Gurney, John.
Dinosaur Train. HarperCollins, 2002. (P-I)
A young boy spends his night on a fun-filled dinosaur train.
- Hale, Bruce.
Chet Gecko's Detective Handbook (and Cookbook): Tips for Private Eyes and Snack Food Lovers. Harcourt, 2005. (I-L)
This book offers a combination of detective tips and recipes to make for a tantalizing mix of fun and foods.
- Hall, Margaret.
Cows and Their Calves. Capstone, 2003. (P-I)
With simple text and large color photographs, the author explores cows and their calves.
- Hayes, Joe.
Chewing Gum Rattler. Cinco Pinto, 2006. (P-I)
A tall tale of chewing gum that kept a young boy from being bitten by a snake.
- Heap, Sue.
Cowboy Baby. Sandvik, 1997. (P)
It's time for Cowboy Baby to go to bed, but before he can retire for the night, he has to round up his "animals".
- Hearn, Diane.
Dad's Dinosaur Day. Aladdin, 1999. (P-I)
When Dad changes into a dinosaur, his children have a fun time following Daddy the Dinosaur through his day.
- Henderson, Kathy.
Look at You!: A Baby Body Book. Candlewick, 2006. (T)
Take a look at a baby's day! From bathtime, to crawling, to sharing toys, this baby has lots of ways to move.

Henkes, Kevin.

Bailey Goes Camping. Aladdin, 1997. (P-I)

Bailey wants to go camping with the Bunny Scouts, but he is too young, so his parents treat him to a special camping trip in the house.

Henkes, Kevin.

So Happy! HarperCollins, 2005. (P-I)

A boy and a rabbit encounter each other during their adventures and discover something magical.

Hiaasen, Carl.

Flush. Knopf, 2005. (I)

Two children find a way to expose the owner of a business who is polluting the waters of Florida.

Hines, Anna.

Miss Emma's Wild Garden. HarperCollins, 1996. (P-I)

Miss Emma has lots of wild things in her garden, but the wildest of all is the little girl who is looking at her garden with her.

Hirschmann, Kris.

Space and the Planets (The Magic School Bus, Fact Finder.) Scholastic, 2003. (P-I)

Children discover facts about space in this Magic School Bus trip.

Hoban, Tana.

Black on White. Greenwillow, 1993. (T)

This interactive book allows children to identify the shapes that are on the page.

Hoban, Tana.

So Many Circles, So Many Squares. Greenwillow, 1998. (P)

Everyday objects are made out of simple shapes. See what shapes you can find in this book.

Hoberman, Mary Ann.

A House is a House for Me. Puffin, 1978. (T-P)

Explore the places animals live in this charming rhyming tale.

Hoberman, Mary Ann.

Mrs. O'Leary's Cow. Little Brown, 2007. (P-I)

When Mrs. O'Leary leaves a lantern on in her barn, her cow kicks it over and starts the Great Chicago Fire. This is a humorous retelling of this trouble-making cow.

Hoena, B.A.

A Visit to the Public Library. Capstone, 2004. (P-I)

Using large photo illustrations and limited text, the author takes us through what we might expect when we visit a public library.

Homzie, H. B.

Two Heads Are Better Than One (Alien Clone from Outer Space). Aladdin, 2002. (I)
Aliens try to learn about the earth by cloning a set of twins.

Hong, Lily Toy.

Two of Everything. Albert Whitman & Company, 1993. (P)

This Chinese folktale is about a poor farmer who finds a magic pot that multiplies anything put inside, including him and his wife!

Hundal, Nancy.

Camping. Fitzhenry and Whiteside, 2002. (P-I)

This is a suspenseful tale about a young boy on his own who is exploring the hills and forests beyond his home. He begins to think he is being followed. Is he?

Hurd, Thatcher.

Moo Cow Kaboom. HarperCollins, 2003. (P)

Moo Cow is taken into outer space for a rodeo.

Hurston, Zora Neale, Joyce Carol Thomas, and Ann Tanksley.

The Six Fools. HarperCollins, 2006. (I)

The story of a young man who searches for people more foolish than his fiancée and her parents.

Hurston, Zora Neale, Joyce Carol Thomas, and Bryan Collier.

What's the Hurry, Fox?: And Other Animal Stories. HarperCollins, 2004. (I)

Porquoi stories collected from the southern states in the 1920's.

Janke, Katelan.

Survival in the Storm: The Dust Bowl Diary of Grace Edwards, Dalhart, Texas, 1936. Scholastic, 2002. (I)

The journal of a young girl living in the Great Depression through the dust bowl in 1935.

Jay, Alison.

1-2-3: A Child's First Counting Book. Dutton, 2007. (T-P)

A fairytale inspired counting book.

Jenkins, Steve.

Living Color. Houghton Mifflin, 2007. (T)

Explore vibrant colors in real animals.

Johnson, Crockett.

Harold and the Purple Crayon. HarperCollins, 1955. (T-P)

Harold draws amazing things with his crayon.

Johnson, Regan.

Little Bunny Kung Fu. Blooming Tree, 2005. P+)

This book offers a new twist to an old story.

Johnston, Tony.

Tale of Rabbit and Coyote. Putnam, 1998. (P+)

This Oaxacan trickster porquoi tale explains why coyotes howl at the moon.

Johnston, Tony.

The Quilt Story. Putnam, 1985. (T-P)

Follow the story of a quilt from the time a loving mother starts it on a prairie to the time a journey ends in a van.

Johnston, Tony.

Cowboy and the Black-Eyed Pea. Putnam, 1992. (P)

This is an adaptation of the Princess and the Pea about how a wealthy rancher knew if the suitor was a real cowboy.

Josse, Barbara.

Hot City. Penguin, 2004. (P-I)

To get away from the hot oppressive city summer, Mimi and her little brother flee to the interior of the cool public library and escape into books.

Kellogg, Steven.

Pecos Bill: A Tall Tale. Morrow, 1986. (P+)

A tall tale about the life of Pecos Bill.

Kerr, Rita.

The Alamo Cat. Eakin, 1988. (I)

Tales of a cat raised by rangers patrolling the Alamo.

Ketteman, Helen.

Waynetta and the Cornstalk: A Texas Fairy Tale. Albert Whitman, 2007. (P-I)

This is a Texas version of *Jack and the Beanstalk*.

Ketteman, Helen.

Armadillo Tattletale. Scholastic, 2000. (P+)

Armadillo misreports what he overhears, so his friends keep him from listening to their conversations.

Kimmel, Eric A.

I Took My Frog to the Library. Puffin, 1992. (P-I)

Find out what happens when a little girl's pets visit the library.

Kirk, Daniel.

Library Mouse. Harry N. Abrams, 2007. (P-I)

Sam, a little mouse that lives in the library, writes his own books. When the children discover them on the library shelves, they love them and want to meet the author. In response, Sam gives them something they were not expecting.

Kirk, Daniel.

Moondogs. Penguin, 1999. (P-I)

Willy goes to the moon to choose his new dog from an unusual set of puppies.

Knowlton, Laurie.

Why Cowboys Sleep With Their Boots On. Pelican, 1995. (P+)

The story of a cowboy and his vanishing wardrobe.

Knowlton, Laurie.

Why Cowgirls Are Such Sweet Talkers. Pelican, 2000. (P+)

This book demonstrates how positive words can calm man and beast.

Knudsen, Michelle.

Library Lion. Candlewick, 2006. (P-I)

The librarian is unsure how to handle a lion, but the lion soon finds a spot at the library. When disaster happens, he is there to save the day.

Kovalski, Maryann.

Omar on Board. Fitzhenry and Whiteside, 2005. (P-I)

Omar has a hard time fitting in with his friends, because he does not swim well and is afraid to dive off of the diving board. He has to overcome his fears and figure out what he does best.

Kramer, Remi.

The Legend of Lone Star Bear. Northwind, 1989. (I)

Willy, a bear, is renamed when he helps his relatives.

Kvasnosky, Laura.

Frank and Izzy Set Sail. Candlewick, 2004. (P-I)

Frank likes to stay at home, but Izzy likes to go on adventures. Izzy convinces his friend, Frank, to go on a camping adventure with him on Crescent Island.

L'Hommedieu, Arthur John.

Ocean Tide Pool. Children's, 1997. (I)

Discover how tidal pools are made and the creatures that live in them.

LaMarche, Jim.

The Raft. HarperCollins, 2000. (I)

The story of Nicky's raft trip down the river.

Lash, John.

Cowboy Stories From East Texas. Hendrick-Long, 2000. (I-L)

Stories about the cowboys of East Texas.

Lasky, Kathryn.

The Librarian Who Measured the Earth, Vol 1. Little, Brown, 1994.(I)

A book about the life of Eratosthenes told through text and pictures.

Lawler, Janet.

If Kisses Were Colors. Dial, 2003. (T-P)

A mother's kisses are described as many things such as colors, snowflakes, and shapes.

Leland, Debbie.

The Jalapeño Man. Wildflower Run, 2000. (P-I)

They couldn't catch the Gingerbread Man. Will the Jalapeño Man get caught?

Levert, Mireille.

Lucy's Secret. Greenwood, 2004. (P)

Lucy wants to know how flowers are made, so she plants seeds in some pots and waits for them to grow.

Lewis, Kevin.

Dinosaur, Dinosaur. Scholastic, 2006. (P-I)

Rhyming couplets describe the day-to-day activities of a dinosaur child.

Lincycomb, Kay.

Storytimes...Plus! Neal-Schuman, 2006. (L)

This book includes several storytimes for preschoolers on up with many unique fingerplays and craft ideas.

Littlefield, Cindy.

Awesome Ocean Science! Williamson, 2003. (I)

Children can explore the wonders of the ocean through hands-on experiments.

London, Jonathan.

Froggy Learns to Swim. Puffin, 1997. (P-I)

Despite being a frog, swimming does not come natural to Froggy. Children will enjoy following Froggy as he learns how to swim.

London, Jonathan.

Sun Dance, Water Dance. Penguin, 2001. (P-I)

An illustrated poem, by Jonathan London, shows children spending a carefree summer outdoors.

Loy, Jessica.

Follow the Trail: A Young Person's Guide to the Great Outdoors. Henry Holt, 2003. (I+)

Nominated for the Bluebonnet Award in 2006, this is a beginner's guide to camping and hiking. It is a good book for parents to share with their children before a camping trip.

Lubka, S. Ruth.

Pupniks: The Story of Two Space Dogs. Marshall Cavendish, 2003. (P-I)

The story of two Soviet Space Dogs that were precursors to the first Soviet manned flight.

Lund, Deb.

All Aboard the DinoTrain. Harcourt, 2006. (P-I)

Colorful pictures with rhyming verses follow dinosaurs as they take a fun roller coaster ride on a train.

Maddigan, Beth.

The Big Book of Stories, Songs, and Sing-Alongs. Libraries Unlimited, 2003. (L)

This book features storytimes for babies, toddlers, preschoolers, with suggestions for rhymes, songs, and crafts.

Mader, Jan.

Let's Go Camping! Capstone, 2007. (P)

Large color photographs and simple text describe the pastime of camping.

Marsh, Carole.

Mystery of the Alamo Ghost. Gallopade, 2003. (P-I)

Four children are going to solve the mystery of the Alamo, even if their Grandmother does not believe it.

Marshall, Edward.

Space Case. Puffin, 1992. (P-I)

Halloween takes this alien as a trick-or-treater, deciding his costume is that of a robot.

Martin, Bill Jr.

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom. Simon and Schuster, 1989. (T-P)

The lower case letters of the alphabet go off to have fun in a tree, and when it falls, the capital letters come to rescue them.

Maupin, Melissa.

Texas Outdoor Adventure Guide for Kids. Texas Parks and Wildlife, 1998. (L)

A resource guide for places in Texas for kids to have fun.

McCarthy, Ann.

Critters of Texas Pocket Guide. Adventure Publications, 2005. (I)

A pocket guide to the animals that live in Texas.

McCarty, Peter.

T is for Terrible. Henry Holt, 2004. (P)

A tyrannosaurus explains why he does the things he does and that he cannot help it that he eats meat and is so terrible. It's just the way he was made.

McClements, George.

Ridin' Dinos with Buck Bronco. Harcourt, 2007. (P-I)

Buck Bronco helps children pick out the kind of dinosaur they would like to ride.

McCully, Emily.

Monk Camps Out. Scholastic, 2000. (P)

Monk attempts to make it through the night on his own in his backyard. Both Monk and his parents are a bit anxious and neither make it through the night.

McDonald, Megan.

When the Library Lights Go Out. Simon and Schuster, 2005. (P-I)

- When the library closes the puppets come alive. They soon discover that the Hermit Crab is missing. They go on adventure in the library to locate the Hermit Crab.
- McElmeel, Sharron L.
Authors in the Pantry: Recipes, Stories and More. Libraries Unlimited, 2006. (I-L)
Recipes from favorite children's authors to serve with readings of their books.
- McQuinn, Anna.
Lola at the Library. Charlesbridge, 2006. (P)
Follow Lola on her weekly trip to the library with her mother.
- Meddaugh, Susan.
Martha Speaks. Houghton Mifflin, 1995. (T-P)
After eating a bowl of alphabet soup, the family dog has a lot to say.
- Merrill, Yvonne Y.
Hands-on Latin America: Art Activities For All Ages. Kits, 1997. (L)
This book contains art activities from Latin America.
- Milgrim, David.
Here is Space. Troll, 1998. (P-I)
A child's discovery of his world provides a new perspective on space.
- Mitchell, Mark.
Raising La Belle. Eakin, 2001. (I)
This is the story of the recovery of the sunken French ship, La Belle, including the problems encountered, and some of the events leading up to the sinking of the ship.
- Monsell, Mary Elise.
Armadillo. Macmillan, 1991. (P+)
Armadillo takes to his home every time it rains and his friends discover how warm and dry his house is.
- Mora, Pat.
Tomás and the Library Lady. Knopf, 1997. (I)
Tomas discovers the world with the help of a kind and caring librarian.
- Morris, Ann.
Houses and Homes (Around the World Series). HarperTrophy, 1995. (P)
Photos and spare text depict homes from around the world.
- Morris, Carla.
The Boy Who Was Raised by Librarians. Peachtree, 2007. (P+)
The story of how a boy finds the library an excellent place to grow up with the help of his librarians.

Most, Bernard.

The Cow That Went Oink. Aladdin, 2003. (P-I)

The other animals make fun of cow and pig because they do not make the right animal sounds.

Most, Bernard.

Whatever Happened to the Dinosaurs? Voyager, 1987. (P-I)

The author explores various scenarios that might have caused the extinction of dinosaurs.

Munro, Roxie.

Ranch. Bright Sky, 2004. (P-I)

The author describes the various aspects of a Texas cattle ranch.

Murdoch, David.

Cowboy. Dorling Kindersley, 2000. (I)

This is an Eyewitness book with color photographs and definitions on cowboy life.

Nelson, Vaunda.

Juneteenth. Millbrook, 2006. (I)

The story of how slaves found their freedom.

Oppenheim, Shulamith.

What is the Moon Full Of? Boyds Mills, 2003. (P-I)

A boy takes a walk with his grandmother. All of the animals he encounters tell him what they think the moon is made of.

Palatini, Margie.

Moo Who? HarperCollins, 2004. (P-I)

Hilda, the singing cow, is hit on the head and forgets how to "moo." She tries copying the other animals until she gets her "moo" back.

Palazzo, Craig.

Why Opossum is Gray. Troll Communications, 1997. (P+)

A Mexican folktale about little Opossum that learns the value of "playing 'possum" when she tries to steal fire from the great Firemaker.

Pallotta, Jerry.

The Icky Bug Counting Book. Charlesbridge, 1992. (T-P)

Children will learn about the alphabet while looking at icky bugs.

Park, Linda.

What Does Bunny See? A Book of Colors and Flowers. Houghton Mifflin, 2005. (P)

A bunny hops through various flowers and discovers all of the colors of the rainbow.

Parr, Todd.

The Family Book. Little, Brown, 2004. (T)

Children will learn about a variety of families in this fun book.

2009 Texas Reading Club Manual

Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!

Published by the Library Development Division of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Austin, Texas 2009.

Parr, Todd.

Otto Goes to Camp. Little Brown, 2004. (P-I)

Otto doesn't seem to bring the right things to camp. His friends make fun of him, until one of his "wrong" things saves the day.

Paulsen, Gary.

Canyons. Delacorte, 1990. (I)

The discovery of a skull involves a young boy with an Apache brave from the past.

Peck, Jan.

Way Down Deep in the Deep Blue Sea. Simon & Schuster, 2004. (T-P)

This is a rhyming book about the animals of the sea.

Pedersen, Janet.

Millie in the Meadow. Candlewick, 2003. (P-I)

Millie the cow watches an artist paint pictures of the other animals. Millie and the children guess what animal the artist is drawing next.

Pelta, Kathy.

Texas. Lerner, 2002. (I)

This book provides an introduction to the places and people of Texas.

Pringle, Laurence P.

Naming the Cat. Walker, 1999. (T-P)

A new cat shows up at a family's house, and they try to decide what to name him.

Pringle, Laurence.

Bear Hug. Boyds Mills, 2003. (P-I)

A father goes on a special camping trip with his children.

Reynolds, Aaron.

Chicks and Salsa. Bloomsbury, 2007. (P)

A smarter than average rooster watches the food channel and cooks for the barnyard. Many of his dishes create unusual things at the farm.

Rice, Melissa.

Fire on the Hillside. Republic of Texas, 2001. (I)

This story of a girl's migration from Germany to Texas in the mid-1800's.

Ride, Sally.

The Mystery of Mars. Crown, 1999. (I)

Information gathered from the Mars probes is presented in this book.

Rinard, Judith.

Book of Flight: The Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum. Firefly, 2007. (I)

Photos and illustrations demonstrating the history of flight.

Robertson, Brian.

Brian Robertson's Favorite Texas Tales. Eakin, 1992. (I)

A collection of stories about Texas, including tall tales.

Rockwell, Anne.

Bumblebee, Bumblebee, Do You Know Me? HarperCollins, 1999. (P-I)

A series of questions reveal several types of flowers.

Rogers, Lisa Waller.

The Great Storm: The Hurricane Diary of J. T. King, Galveston, Texas, 1900.

Texas Tech, 2002. (I)

A teenage boy's diary of the Galveston hurricane of 1900.

Rotner, Shelley.

Pick A Pet. Orchard, 1999. (P)

Picking a pet can be difficult. Peggy must decide which pet she wants and why.

Rubin, Susan Goldman.

Counting with Wayne Thiebaud. Chronicle Books, 2007. (P)

A great introduction to art through counting.

Rustad, Martha.

The Planets. Capstone, 2002. (P)

Color photos and simple text introduce preschoolers to the nine planets.

Ryan, Pam Munoz.

Hello Ocean. Charlesbridge, 2001. (P+)

A rhyming picture book about a day at the beach.

Rylant, Cynthia.

The Relatives Came. Aladdin, 1993. (T-P)

See what happens when relatives come to stay a while.

Sachar, Louis.

Sideways Stories from Wayside School. Scholastic, 2001. (I)

Hilarious short stories about a wacky school built sideways, with 30 one-classroom stories.

Schaefer, Lola M.

It's My Body ABC. Heinemann, 2003. (T)

Through photographs and text, this book teaches toddlers about various body parts.

Schiller, Pam.

The Complete Resource Book: An Early Childhood Curriculum, Over 1500 Activities and Ideas. Gryphon, 2004. (L)

This is a gigantic book of activities for preschool through kindergarten age children.

Schuette, Sarah.

Let's Look at Summer. Capstone, 2007. (P-I)

Large photographs and simple text illustrate summer events.

Schuh, Mari.

The Milk Group. Capstone, 2006. (P-I)

This non-fiction book explains the milk group in clear pictures with minimal text.

Scott, Elaine.

When is a Planet Not a Planet?: The Story of Pluto. Clarion, 2007. (I)

A nonfiction book that discusses the history of the discovery of the nine planets.

Seuss, Dr.

Mr. Brown Can Moo, Can You? Random House, 1970. (T-P)

Mr. Brown invites readers to imitate animal sounds.

Shannon, David.

Good Boy, Fergus! Blue Sky, 2006. (T)

Fergus is a good dog, but sometimes does naughty things.

Shaw, Nancy.

Sheep in a Jeep. Houghton Mifflin, 1986. (T-P)

Five sheep go on a road trip.

Sierra, Judy.

Counting Crocodiles. Scholastic, 1998. (T-P)

A clever monkey uses crocodiles to get to the island with bananas.

Sierra, Judy.

The Flannel Board Storytelling Book. H.W. Wilson, 1997. (L)

This book contains flannelboard stories and patterns for toddlers through school age children.

Sierra, Judy.

Mind Your Manners, B.B. Wolf. Random House, 2007. (P-I)

The Big Bad Wolf decides to go to the library for storybook tea. He wins everyone over by being exceedingly polite and is invited to come back again.

Sierra, Judy.

Wild About Books. Random House, 2004. (P-I)

When the librarian accidentally takes her bookmobile to the zoo, the animals discover the joy of reading.

Simon, Charnan.

Lewis the Librarian. The Child's World, 2006. (P)

Lewis the Librarian loves doing all of the parts of his job, but his favorite is storytime.

Singer, Marilyn.

Quiet Night. Houghton Mifflin, 2002. (P)

Campers awakened by numerous nighttime animals are having anything but a quiet night

Small, Terry.

Legend of Pecos Bill. Bantam, 1992. (P+)

The tall tale of Pecos Bill and his adventures in Texas.

Smith, Cynthia Leitich.

Jingle Dancer. HarperCollins, 2000. (P+)

A girl wants to dance like her Grandma Wolfe at the powwow, but needs to make a dress for the jingle dance.

Smith, Dana.

A Wild Cowboy. Hyperion, 2004. (P-I)

A toddler spending the day with Grandma lets his imagination run wild and goes on an imaginary cowboy adventure.

Sobel, June.

Shiver Me Letters: A Pirate ABC. Harcourt, 2006. (T-P)

Deciding they need more than the letter "R", a group of pirates set sail on an alphabet adventure.

Spencer, Gwynne.

Directory of Authors, Illustrators and Storytellers West of the Mississippi. Linworth, 2002. (L)

This book lists potential speakers from over twenty states.

Spradlin, Michael.

Texas Rangers, Legendary Lawmen. Walker, 2008. (I)

Illustrated history of the Texas Rangers and how they do their job.

Squires, Janet.

The Gingerbread Cowboy. HarperCollins, 2006. (P-I)

This is a westernized version of the Gingerbread Man.

Stadler, Alexander.

Beverly Billingsly Borrows a Book. Harcourt, 2002. (P-I)

When Beverly keeps a library book past the due date, she imagines all of the horrible things that are going to happen to her when the librarian finds out.

Stangl, Jean.

Flannel Graphs: Flannel Board Fun. Frank Schaffer, 1986. (L) OP

This book is a collection of flannel board stories and patterns.

Stein, David.

Cowboy Ned and Andy. Simon and Schuster, 2006. (P-I)

- It's Cowboy Ned's birthday, and Andy wants to get him a birthday cake. He wanders around the desert looking for a birthday surprise for his friend.
- Steinberg, Laya.
Thesaurus Rex. Barefoot Books, 2005. (P-I)
The author uses the character of "Thesaurus Rex" to teach synonyms.
- Stevens, Janet.
Tortoise and the Hare. Holiday House, 1984. (P+)
This book is a retelling of the classic Aesop's fable.
- Stewart, Sarah.
The Library. Farrar Straus and Giroux, 1999. (P-I)
Follow a young girl into adulthood whose life centers on books and the library.
- Stutson, Caroline.
Cowpokes. HarperCollins, 1999. (P-I)
The author describes what cowboys do from dawn to dusk.
- Suen, Anastasia.
Man on the Moon. Aladdin, 2002. (P-I)
The story of the lunar landing by Apollo 11 in 1969.
- Tabor, Nancy Maria Grande.
We Are A Rainbow. Charlesbridge, 1997. (I)
This book includes simple comparisons of food, legends, and more from various cultures. The illustrations are colorful cut-paper art.
- Thaler, Mike.
The Librarian from the Black Lagoon. Scholastic, 1997. (P-I)
A humorous story about a fire-breathing teacher and a library with books bolted to the shelves.
- Thimmesh, Catherine.
Team Moon: How 400,000 People Landed Apollo 11 on the Moon. Houghtlin Mifflin, 2006. (P+)
An adventure-filled retelling of the story of the first Apollo moon-landing.
- Thomas, Rosie.
Cowgirl Rosie and Her Five Baby Bison. Little Brown, 2001. (P-I)
Cowgirl Rosie must go in search of her missing baby bison.
- Thompson, Carol.
Mr. Wiggle's Book. School Specialty Publishing, 2003. (P-I)
Mr. Wiggle the inchworm, talks about the ways people damage books and teaches children how to properly care for books.
- Thompson, Carol.
Mr. Wiggle's Library. School Specialty Publishing, 2003. (P-I)

- Mr. Wiggle the inchworm, explains library organization and the numerous things the library offers.
- Thompson, Carol.
Mr. Wiggle Looks for Answers. School Specialty Publishing, 2003. (P-I)
Mr. Wiggle the inchworm, teaches children how they can use reference books to find the answers they need.
- Thompson, Carol.
Mr. Wiggle Loves to Read. School Specialty Publishing, 2003. (P-I)
Mr. Wiggle the inchworm, teaches children how the library is organized, what fiction and non-fiction are, and how books are found in the library.
- Thompson, Lauren.
Mouse's First Summer. Simon and Schuster, 2004. (P)
Follow Mouse and Minka as they explore fun summer activities.
- Thong, Roxanne.
Round Is A Moon Cake. Scholastic, 2005. (T-P)
A look at Chinese culture and shapes in everyday objects.
- Tingle, Tim.
Crossing Bok Chitto: A Choctaw Tale of Friendship and Freedom. Cinco Puntos, 2006. (I)
Cross-cultural stories about friendships between Native Americans and African American slaves, set before the Civil War and the Trail of Tears.
- Tingle, Tim.
When Turtle Grew Feathers: A Tale from the Choctaw Nation. August House, 2007. (P+)
A Choctaw version of the story of the tortoise and the hare.
- Totten, Kathryn.
Seasonal Storytime Crafts. Highsmith, 2002. (L)
This book contains seasonal thematic storytimes for ages 2-6 that include books, crafts, rhymes, and songs.
- Totten, Kathryn.
Storytime Crafts. Upstart, 1998. (L)
This book contains seasonal thematic storytimes for ages 2-6 that include books, crafts, rhymes, and songs.
- Travis, George.
Let's Go Fishing in the Ocean. Rourke, 1998. (I)
Read this book to find ways to fish in the ocean.
- Van Dusen, Chris.
A Camping Spree with Mr. Magee. Chronicle, 2003. (P-I)

- Mr. Magee and his dog go on an adventure-filled camping trip. A hungry bear out for food inadvertently sends Mr. Magee and his dog down the river and almost over the waterfall. Find out how the bear saves the day.
- Wagner, Lisa.
Cool Foods for Fun Fiestas: Easy Recipes for Kids to Cook. Checkerboard, 2007. (P-I)
This book is full of easy recipes for children.
- Walsh, Ellen Stoll.
Mouse Paint. Harcourt, 1989. (T-P)
Three mice learn to paint to hide from the cat.
- Walsh, Ellen Stoll.
Mouse Shapes. Harcourt, 2007. (T)
Three mice use different shapes to hide from a cat.
- Walton, Rick.
So Many Bunnies: A Bedtime ABC and Counting Book. HarperCollins, 1998. (T-P)
Old Mother Rabbit lives with her 26 bunnies in a shoe. Each one of her bunny's names starts with a different letter of the alphabet.
- Waltz, Josephine.
Write Out of the Oven! Letters and Recipes from Children's Authors. Teacher Ideas, 2005. (I-L)
An insightful view of children's authors that includes their recipes and words of wisdom.
- Warner, Gertrude Chandler.
The Deserted Library Mystery. Albert Whitman, 1991. (I)
A story about a boy who needs help from the Boxcar Children and a man who wants something valuable from the library as his own.
- Weatherby, Mark.
My Dinosaur. Scholastic, 1997. (P-I)
A little girl goes on a nighttime voyage with her dinosaur friend.
- White, Mark.
The Tortoise and the Hare. Picture Window, 2004. (P+)
This book is a retelling of the classic Aesop's fable.
- Whybrow, Ian.
Sammy and the Dinosaurs. Scholastic, 1999. (P-I)
Sammy has a collection of toy dinosaurs that come alive for him. When Sammy accidentally leaves them on the train, the dinosaurs find their way back to him.
- Willems, Mo.
Edwina: The Dinosaur Who Didn't Know She Was Extinct. Hyperion, 2006. (P-I)

- A little boy is determined to convince everyone in town that, because dinosaurs are extinct, Edwina the dinosaur can not exist.
- Williams, Sue.
I Went Walking. Harcourt, 1989. (T)
Going for a walk can be fun, especially when you run into a variety of animals.
- Willis, Jeanne.
I Want to Be a Cowgirl. Henry Holt, 2002. (P-I)
A girl who wants to be a cowgirl describes how unsatisfied she is in the city.
- Wilmes, Liz and Dick.
2's Experience Felt Board Fun. Building Blocks, 2004. (L)
This book is a compilation of flannel board activities and patterns appropriate for two-year-olds.
- Wilmes, Liz and Dick.
Felt Board Fun: For Everyday and Holidays. Building Blocks, 2004. (L)
This book is a compilation of flannel board activities and patterns.
- Wilson, Karma.
Hilda Must Be Dancing. Margaret K. McElderry, 2004. (T-P)
Not everyone in the jungle loves Hilda's dancing as much as she does.
- Wilson, Karma.
Sakes Alive!: A Cattle Drive. Little Brown, 2005. (P-I)
Two cows take the farmer's truck and have an eventful ride into town.
- Wood, Audrey.
The Deep Blue Sea: A Book of Colors. Blue Sky, 2005. (T)
Explore the colors in the middle of the sea.
- Wood, Don.
Piggies. Harcourt, 1997. (T)
These little piggies get into a lot of messes! Explore what hands and fingers can do in this book.
- Wood, Jakki.
Across the Big Blue Sea. National Geographic, 1998. (P-I)
Sixty sea animals are seen as a boat travels through the waterways.
- Yaccarino, Dan.
Zoom! Zoom! Zoom!: I'm Off to the Moon. Aladdin, 2001. (P-I)
A boy takes a dangerous and exciting space trip to the moon.
- Yolen, Jane.
How Do Dinosaurs Count to Ten? Blue Sky, 2004. (T-P)
Follow different types of dinosaurs as they count various objects.

Yolen, Jane.

How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight? Blue Sky, 000. (P)

Dinosaurs show the incorrect way to go to bed, and then the correct way.

Yoo, Tae-Eun.

The Little Red Fish. Penguin, 2007. (P-I)

When JeJe falls asleep in the library, he awakens to find his little red fish is gone. JeJe has lots of adventures in the library as he looks for his little red fish.

Audio Recordings

Allen, Margaret, Dr.

Critters, Colors and Clouds. Maggie Music, 2004. (CD) (P)

This CD features songs about Texas critters and more.

Berkner, Laurie.

Buzz Buzz. Two Tomatoes, 2001. (CD) (T-I)

This CD features songs by Laurie Berkner that are featured on the NOGGIN cable network.

Bollinger, Cathy.

Alphabet Jam Songs & Rhymes to Build Early Reading Skills. Rivanna Arts, 2006. (CD) (T)

A collection of songs about the alphabet and individual letters.

Erickson, John R.

Tales and Tunes from Hank the Cowdog. Maverick, 2003. (CD) (P+)

Excerpts from *Hank the Cowdog* books and original songs about Hank.

Fink, Cathy and Marcy Marxer with Brave Combo.

All Wound Up! - A Family Music Party. Rounder, 2001. (CD) (P+)

A collection of fun music sure to make children move.

Fink, Cathy.

Bon Appetit: Musical Food Fun. Rounder Kids, 2003. (CD) (P+)

Discover the fun world of food through various styles of music.

Grupo Fantasma.

Movimiento Popula. Aire Sol, 2004. (CD) (P+)

This Texas based, high energy Latin ensemble is gaining national attention.

Jastram, Lisa.

Cowboys, Critters and Such. Musical Endeavors, 1997. (CASS & CD) (P)

Lisa sings about Texas cowboys and critters.

Kimbo.

Songs about Colors and Shapes. Kimbo, 2003. (CD) (T)

This collection includes songs about individual colors and a wide variety of shapes.

McDermott, Tom.

Cooperation Garden Time: Stories and Songs for Kids. Listening House, 2002. (CD) (P+)

Songs and musical stories performed by Texas storyteller, Tom McDermott.

Miller, Lucas.

I Was a Supa-Dupa Pupa! Big Kids Productions, 2005. (CD) (I)

This award winning recording from Texas author and musician, Lucas Miller, is full of environmental songs.

Raffi.

Raffi: the Singable Songs Collection. Rounder, 1997. (CD) (P+)

A collection on 3 CDs of Raffi's songs for preschoolers and early elementary age children on a variety of topics.

Singin' Steve.

Learning Land & Rainbow Village. Smartsongs, 1998. (CD) (T)

Songs include concepts about senses, colors, and shapes.

The Wiggles.

Dance Party. Koch Records, 2003. (CD) (T-I)

This CD contains songs from "The Wiggles" cable show.

The Wiggles.

Whoo Hoo! Wiggly Gremlins. Koch Records, 2004. (CD) (T-I)

This CD contains songs from "The Wiggles" cable show.

The Wiggles.

Yummy Yummy. Koch Records, 2003. (CD) (T-I)

This CD contains songs from "The Wiggles" cable show.

Various Artists.

Asian Dreamland. Putumayo, 2007. (CD) (P+)

This collection of Asian lullabies will sooth and calm.

Various Artists.

Latin Playground. Putumayo, 2002. (CD)(P+)

A collection of upbeat songs by well-known artists from Cuba, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Uruguay.

Various Artists.

Many Tricksters. San Antonio StoryTellers' Association, 1996. (Cass)(I+)

Trickster tales from many Texan cultures, including German, Alabama-Coushatta, Creole, African-American, and Tejano. Also includes Jewish and American South tales.

Various Artists.

Ants Go Marching. Madacy Kids, 2002. (CD) (T-P)

Traditional children's songs by various artists.

Various Artists.

Jazz for kids: Sing, Clap, Wiggle and Shake. Verve Music Group, 2004. (CD) (P+)

Listen to classic songs recorded between 1941 through 1967 and hear how the masters of music tell their stories with songs. Includes "Yes, We Have No Bananas" by Louis Prima.

Wee Sing.

Wee Sing Around the World. Price Stern & Sloan/Newsound, 2006. (CD) (T-P)

Over an hour in length, this recording is packed with traditional songs from many countries.

Wonder Pets.

Wonder Pets! Nick Records, 2007. (CD) (T-P)

Soundtrack of the best from the *Nick Jr.* children's TV series! *Wonder Pets!*, about the adventures of three classroom pets who travel around the globe and use teamwork to rescue animals who need their help.

Films/Videos/DVDs

All About Astronauts.

Good Times, 2005. (61 minutes) (P-I)

This is an informational DVD for children about space exploration.

All About Cowboys for Kids Part I.

TM Books and Video, 2004. (50 minutes) (P-I)

This is an informational DVD for children about cowboy life.

All About Cowboys for Kids Part II.

TM Books and Video, 2003 (45minutes) (P-I)

This is an informational DVD for children about cowboy life.

All About Dinosaurs for Children.

Schlessinger Media, 2005. (23 minutes) (I)

This DVD acquaints children with various species of dinosaurs and compares them with their modern counterparts.

All About the Planets for Children.

Schlessinger Media, 2005. (23 minutes) (P-I)

This DVD teaches children about the Solar System.

Best of the Real West.

A & E Television Network, 2000. (DVD) (P+) (60 minutes)

Kenny Rogers narrates stories about the old west.

Big Bend National Park.

Finley-Holiday Films, 2005. (DVD) (P+) (41 minutes)

See the flora and animals and enjoy the scenery while learning about Big Bend National Park and all it offers visitors.

Big Space Shuttle.

Big Kids Production, 2003. (50 minutes) (I)

This DVD teaches children about the space program.

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Ocean Life.

Disney, 2003. (DVD) (P-I) (26 minutes)

In his unique way of experimenting and demonstrating how things work, Bill Nye explores the ocean.

Blue's Clues: Shapes and Colors.

Nickelodeon, 2003. (96 minutes) (T-P)

Join Blue as she solves a mystery involving shapes and colors.

Chicka, Chicka, 1-2-3... And More Stories About Counting.

New Video Group, 2006. (42 minutes) (T)

Count and learn with this video.

Click, Clack Moo Cows That Type.

New Video Group, 2003. (52 minutes) (P-I)

This is a collection that includes 'Click, Clack, Moo Cows That Type,' 'The Day Jimmy's Boa Ate the Wash,' and 'The Pig's Wedding.' The 'Click, Clack, Moo Cows that Type' segment is about 10 minutes.

Cow Who Clucked.

Spoken Arts, 2007. (11 minutes) (P-I)

Cow has a dream that she is a chicken and upon waking she discovers that she can only cluck. She has lost her "moo." Cow sets out to find her "moo" by visiting every animal on the farm

Crazy for Color.

Baby Bumblebee, 2003. (60 minutes) (T)

Children explore and learn about colors by looking at real objects like balloons and butterflies.

Danny and the Dinosaur and More.

New Video Group, 2005. (58 minutes) (P-I)

Danny is surprised when one of the dinosaurs from the museum plays with him.

Dora the Explorer: Summer Explorer.

Paramount Home Entertainment, 2007. (98 minutes) (P)

Dora and Boots must fix the mixed up seasons and have some summer fun.

Good Night, Gorilla... and More Bedtime Stories.

Scholastic, 2003 (51 minutes). (T)

2009 Texas Reading Club Manual

Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!

Published by the Library Development Division of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Austin, Texas 2009.

Bedtime has never been so much fun as it is with this video. Includes "The Napping House."

Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs.

Warner Home Video, 2006. (55 minutes) (P-I)

When Harry looks in his bucket full of dinosaurs he is transported to Dino Land where he has lots of dinosaur adventures with his dinosaur friends.

How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight?

New Video Group, 2004. (59 minutes) (P-I)

Using dinosaurs, the author illustrates the incorrect way to go to bed and then the correct way.

Kidsongs: Day at Camp.

Image Entertainment, 2002. (30 minutes) (P-I)

Sing campfire songs with the children from Camp Kidsongs.

The Legend of the Bluebonnet.

Clearvue, 1991. (VHS) (P+) (20 minutes)

The legend of how the bluebonnet came to be, retold by Tomie de Paola.

Let's Explore...Spring and Summer.

One Smart Cookie Productions, 2006. (38 minutes) P-I)

Three levels of learning are included on the DVD for children from preschool to age ten. Children will learn about things like: summer weather, seasonal foods, insects, and more.

Magic School Bus Space Adventures.

Warner Home Video, 2003. (82 minutes) (P-I)

This DVD includes three episodes about space from the "Magic School Bus" series.

My Community: Library.

Schlessinger Media, 2007. (15 minutes) (P-I)

This is an instructional DVD for children on how a library works.

Pecos Bill: King of the Cowboys.

Koch 1985. (P+) (50 minutes)

Discover the amazing tale of how Pecos Bill tackled a twister and took a bull by the horns. Shelly Duvall's Tall Tales and Legends series is now available in DVD.

Planting A Rainbow.

Weston Woods, 2007. (6 minutes) (P-I)

This DVD is based on the children's book by Lois Ehlert about a garden with rainbow colors.

Rainbow Fish Fun and Games.

Sony Wonder, 2001. (VHS) (P-I) (45 minutes)

Rainbow Fish shares his adventures on the ocean floor while children learn about games that fish play.

Reading Rainbow: Meanwhile Back at the Ranch.

Reading Rainbow, 2004. (30 minutes) (P-I)

Experience the old west with Levar Burton and see a stuntwoman demonstrate rope tricks and stunts on horseback.

Reading Rainbow: Space Case.

GPN Educational Media, 2004. (30 minutes) (P-I)

A video retelling of the book, *Space Case*. A creature from outer space comes to Earth and is mistaken for different things.

Reading Rainbow: Summer.

Lancit Media Entertainment, 1994. (30 minutes) (P-I)

This DVD follows baby animals through their summer activities.

Seeds! Seeds! Seeds!

New Media, 2005. (15 minutes) (P-I)

Based on the children's book of the same title, Buddy Bear learns about different seeds and how they grow.

Serious Farm.

Nutmeg Media, 2005. (10 minutes) (P-I)

Farmer Fred and his farm animals are so serious that they never crack a smile. One day Edna the cow gets the other animals to try and help her make Farmer Fred laugh. Despite their best efforts it backfires and the animals decide to run away. Farmer Fred must learn what is really important.

Sing Along Songs: Campout.

Disney, 1994. (30 minutes) (P-I)

Sing campfire songs with the Disney Gang. On-screen lyrics are included for children to sing along with.

Stanley's Dinosaur Round-Up.

Disney, 2006. (71 minutes) (P-I)

Stanley takes the children through the world of dinosaurs.

Tall Tales and Legends.

Schlessinger Media, 2007. (23 minutes) (P-I)

This is an animated DVD about the life of Pecos Bill.

VRRROOMMM 2 Dairy Farming For Kids.

Big Kids Productions, 2003. (30 minutes) (P+)

This movie describes the various activities on a dairy farm, from milking the cows to making cheese.

Wayside - The Movie.

Paramount, 2007. (49 minutes) (I+)

A film based on the book by Louis Sachar.

When Zachary Beaver Came to Town.

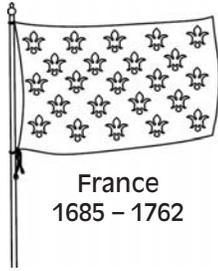
Platinum, 2006. (85 minutes) (I+)

A film based on the book by Kimberly Willis Holt.

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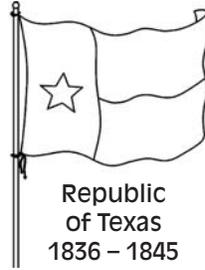
Spain
1519 - 1821



France
1685 - 1762



Mexico
1821 - 1836



Republic
of Texas
1836 - 1845



Confederate
States
of America
1861 - 1865



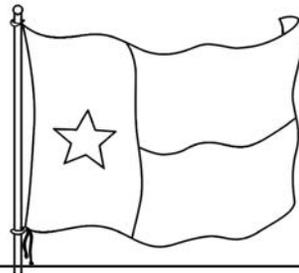
United States
of America
1845 - Present

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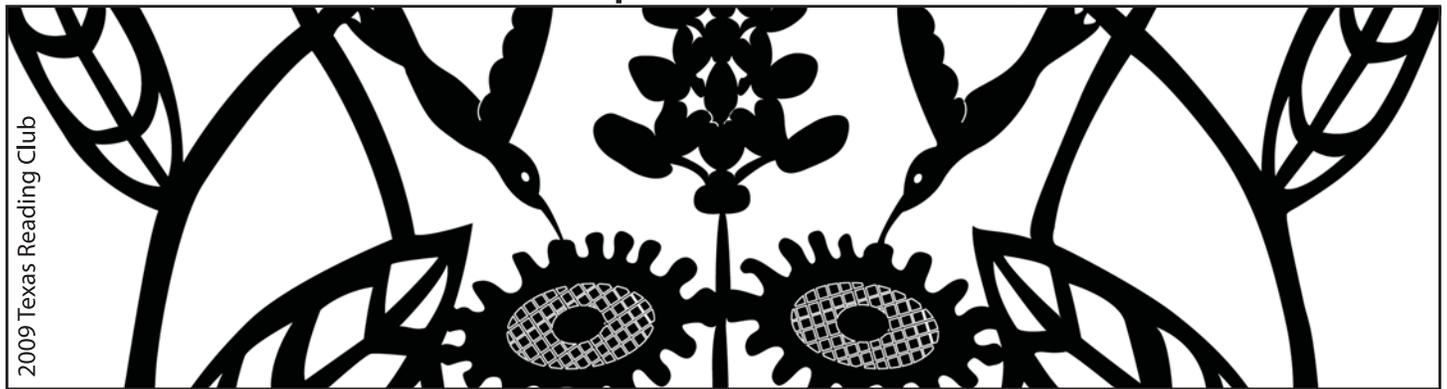
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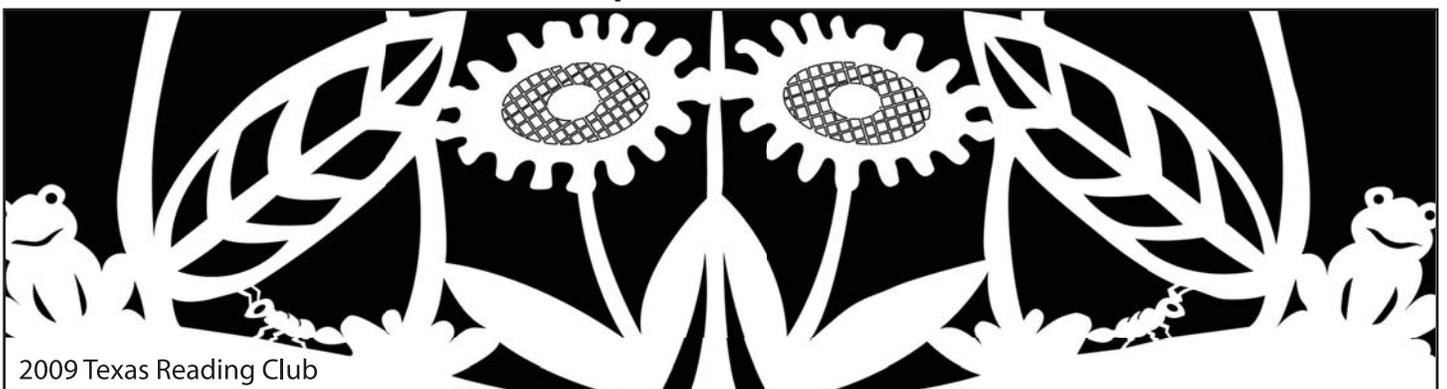


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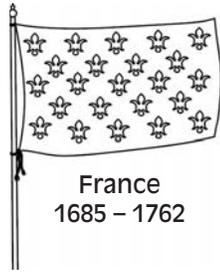
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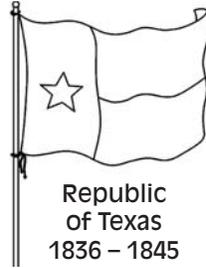
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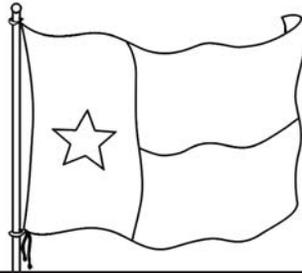
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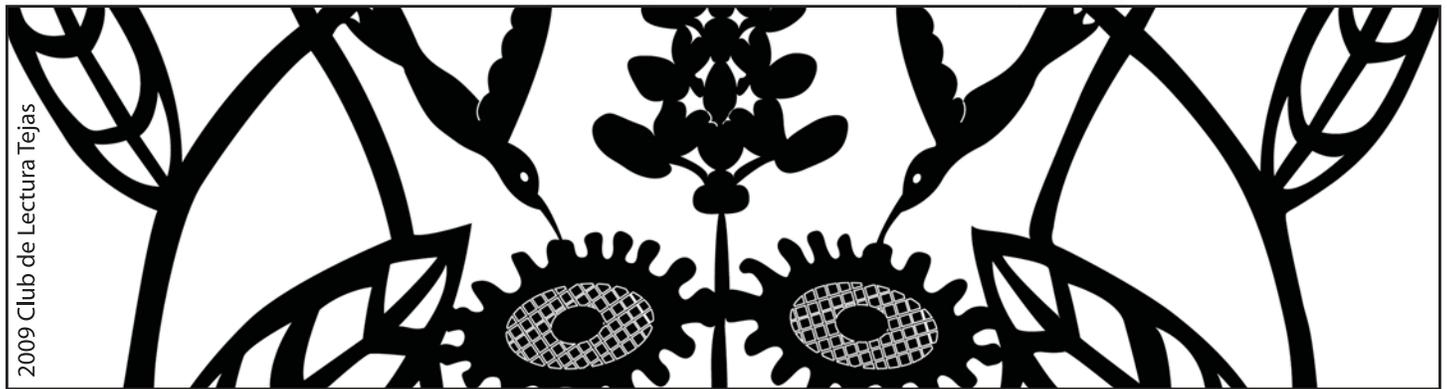
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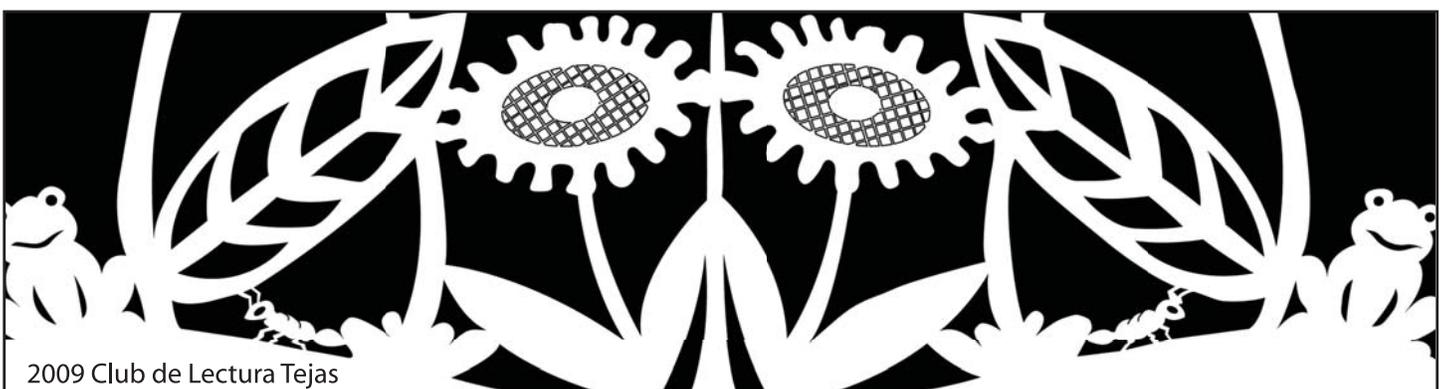


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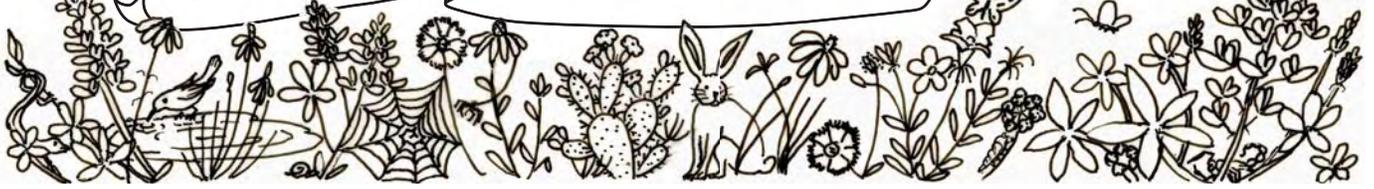
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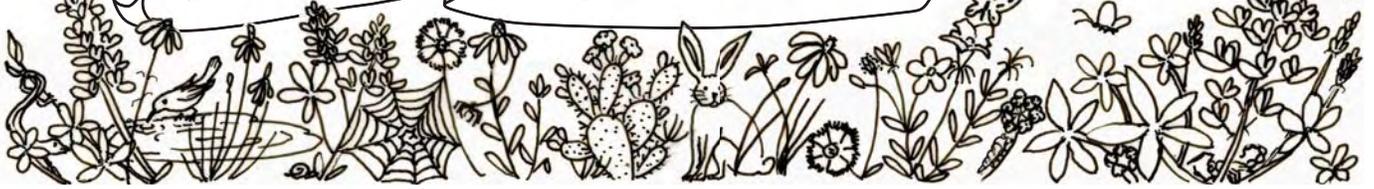


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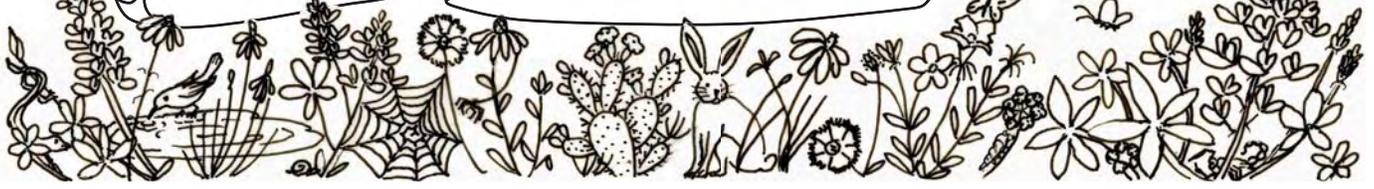


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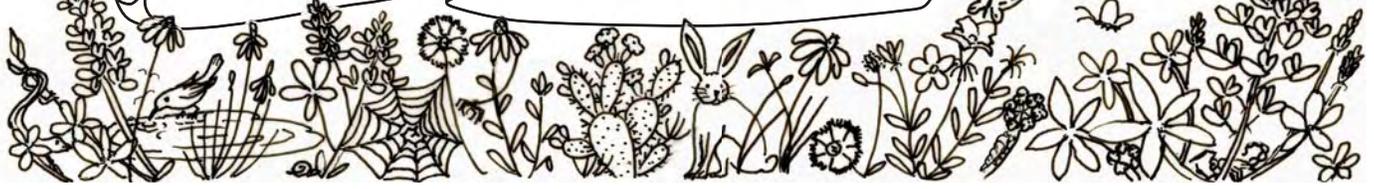


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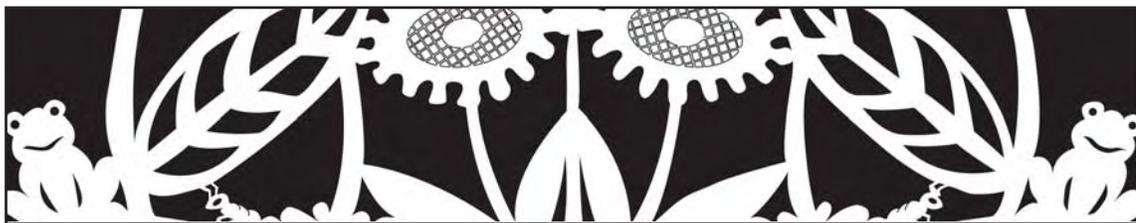
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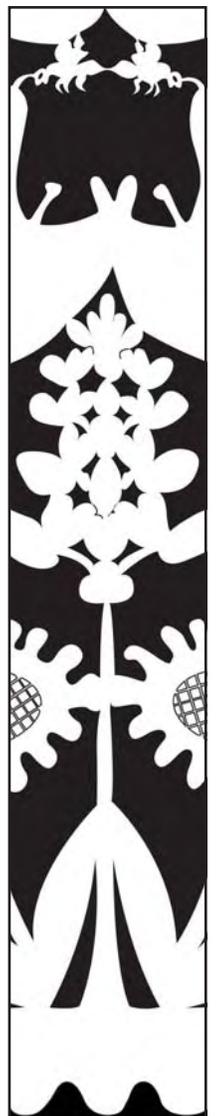


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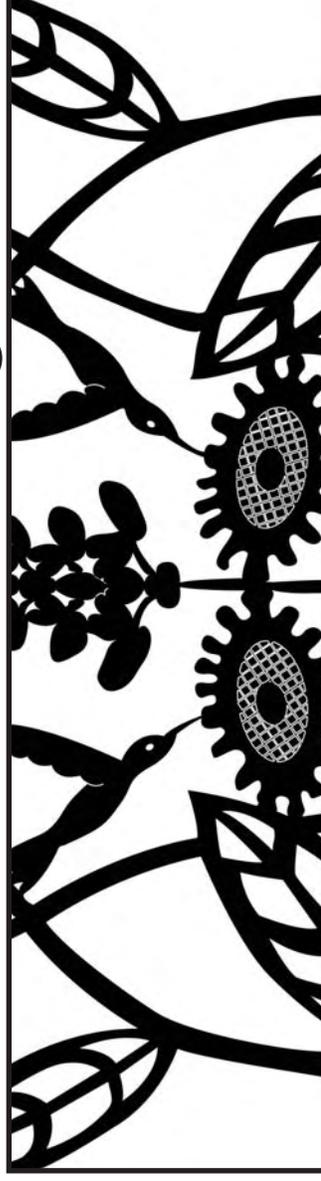


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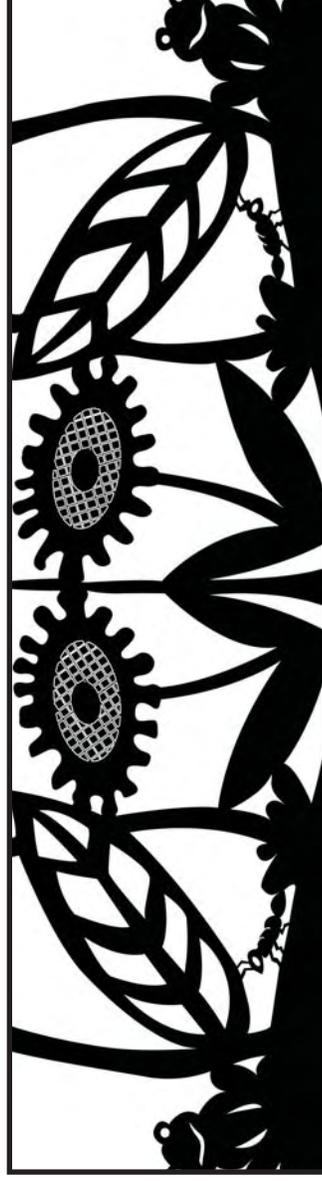


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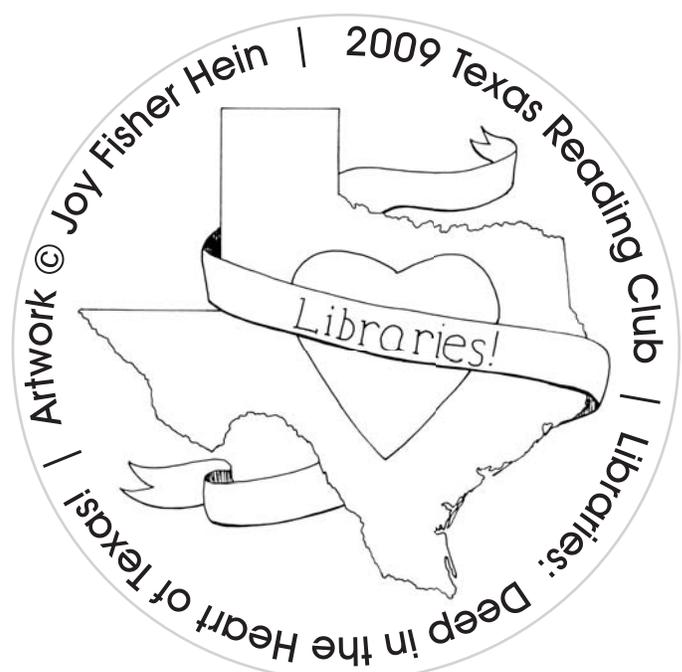
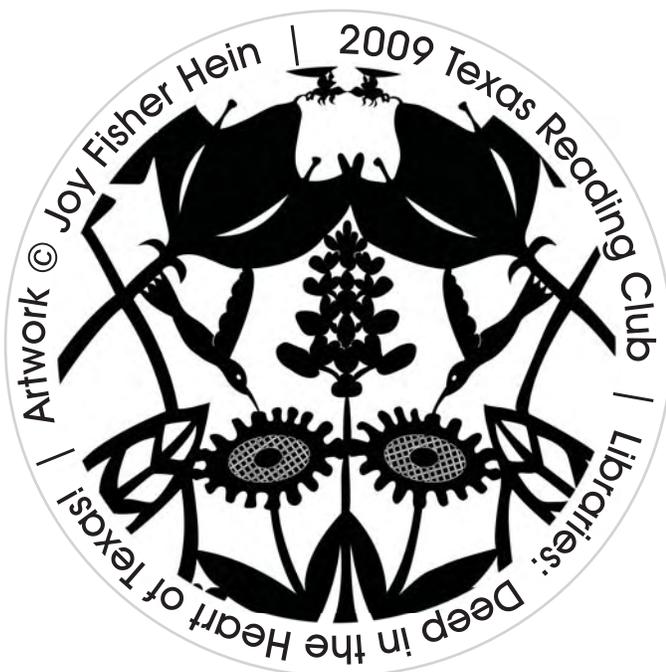


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Buttons

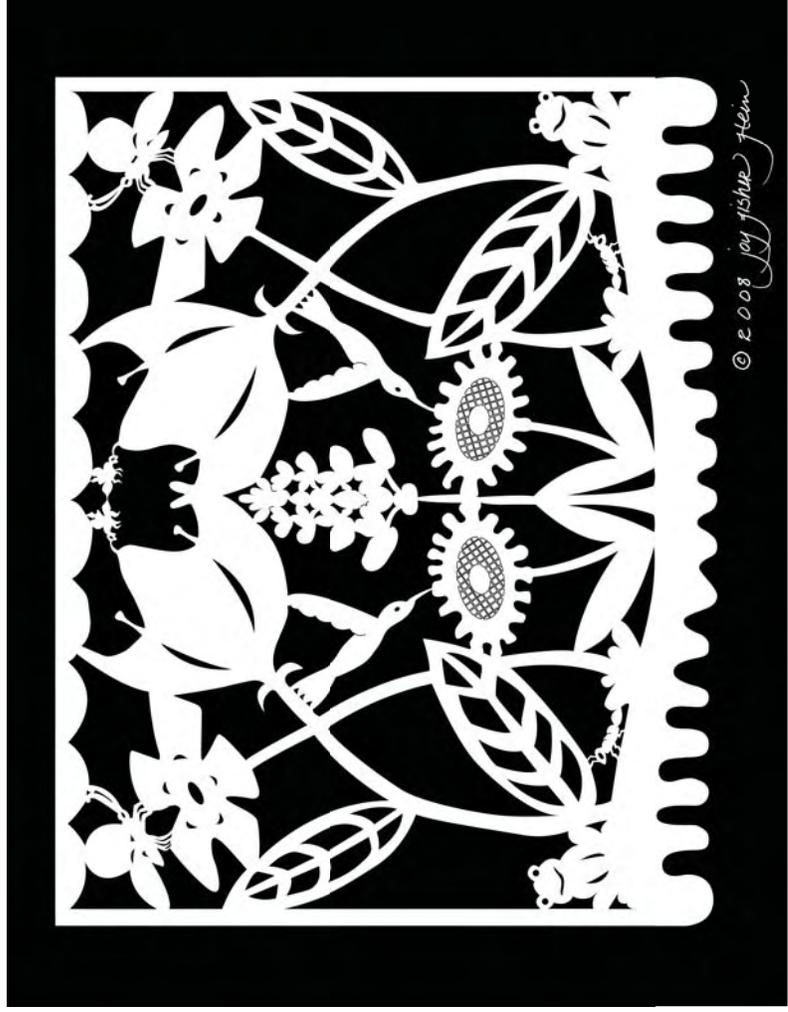


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Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!

Certificate of Appreciation

For Support of the Texas Reading Club



Library

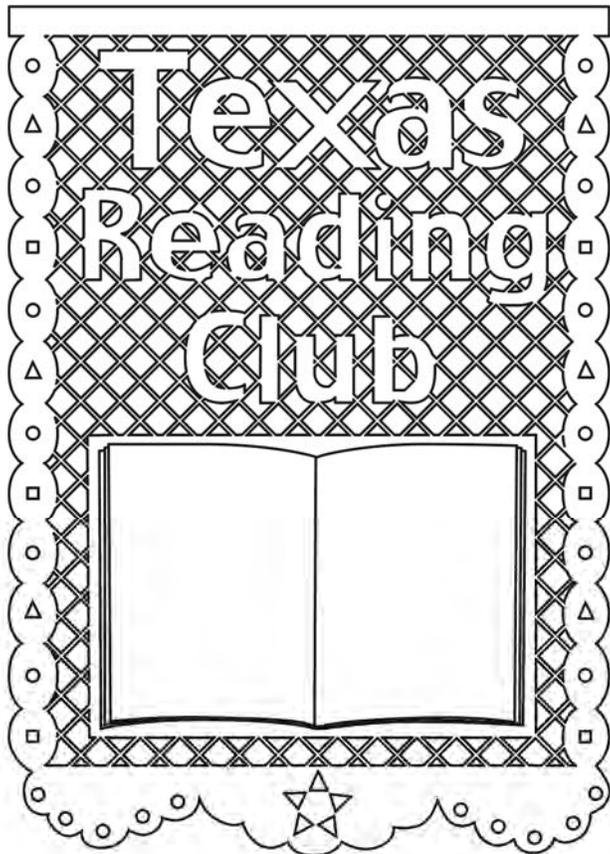
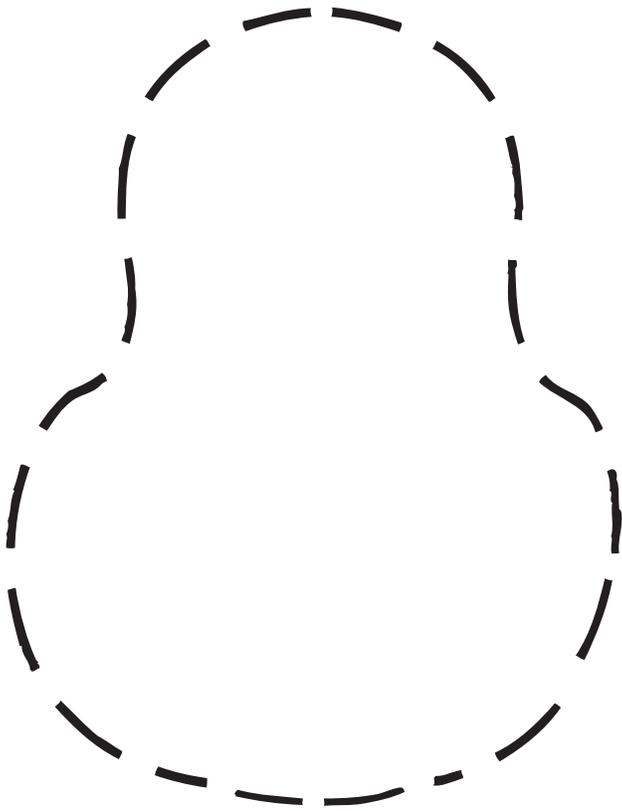
Child's Name

Librarian

Date

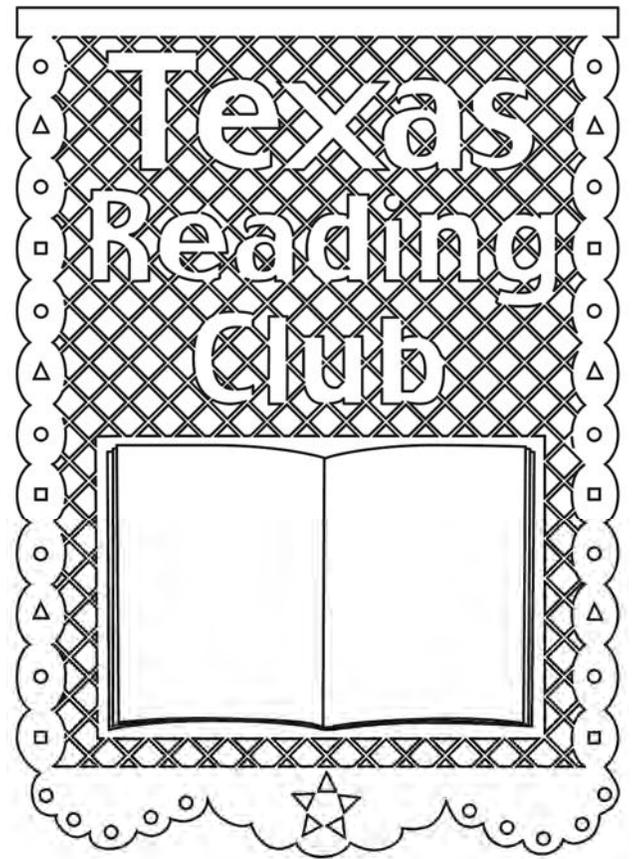
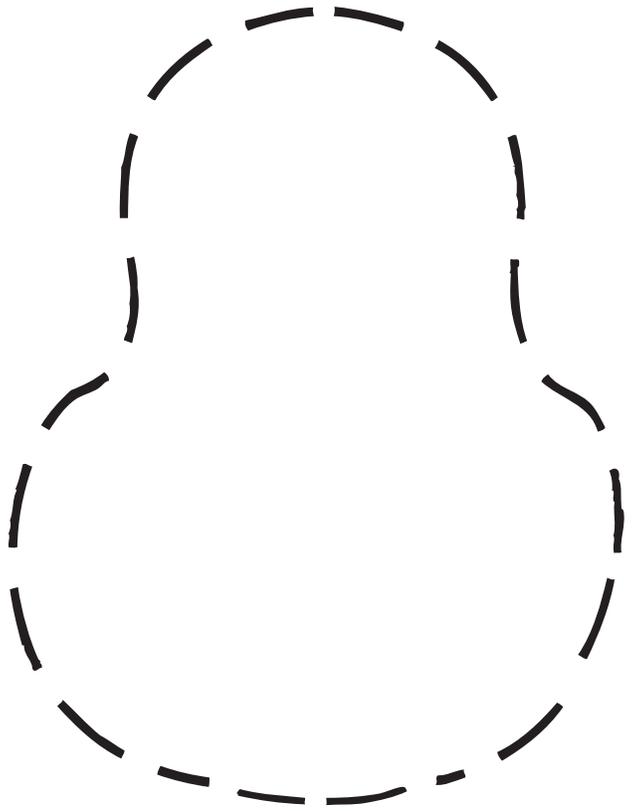
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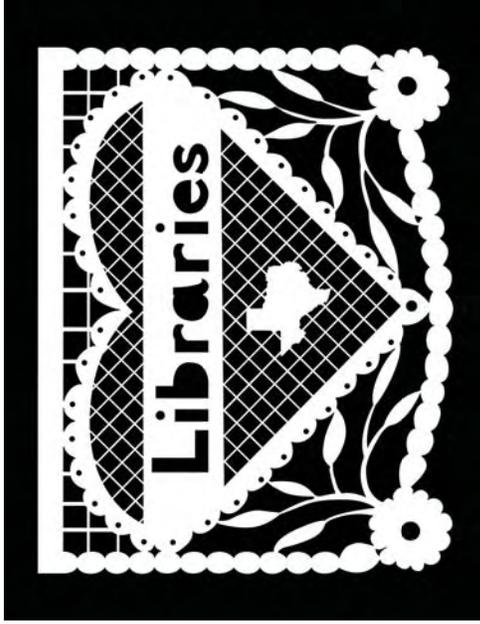


2009 Texas Reading Club

Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!



2009 Texas Reading Club Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!



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Title Log

Reader's Name: _____

City: _____

Phone #: _____

School: _____

Grade: _____

Age: _____

Last day to turn in log: _____

Write the titles of the books you read below:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Texas Reading Club is sponsored cooperatively by your local library and the Texas State Library and Archives Commission

Write the total number
of books you read here: _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

13. _____

14. _____

15. _____

16. _____

17. _____

18. _____

19. _____

20. _____

21. _____

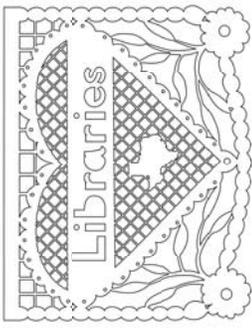
22. _____

23. _____

24. _____

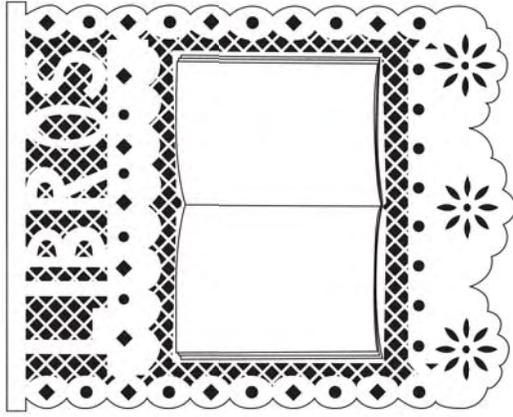
25. _____

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2009 Club de Lectura Tejas



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¡Bibliotecas:
En lo más
profundo
del corazón
de Tejas!

Diario de
libros leídos

Nombre/Apellido: _____

Ciudad: _____

Teléfono: _____

Escuela: _____

Grado: _____

Edad: _____

Último día volver la lista: _____

Anota el título de los libros que leíste:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Promocionando conjuntamente por tu biblioteca y la Comisión de Archivos y Biblioteca del Estado de Texas

Anota aquí el total
de libros que leíste: _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

13. _____

14. _____

15. _____

16. _____

17. _____

18. _____

19. _____

20. _____

21. _____

22. _____

23. _____

24. _____

25. _____

Promocionando conjuntamente por tu biblioteca y la Comisión de Archivos y Biblioteca del Estado de Texas



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Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!



Time Log

Reader's Name: _____

City: _____

Phone #: _____

School: _____

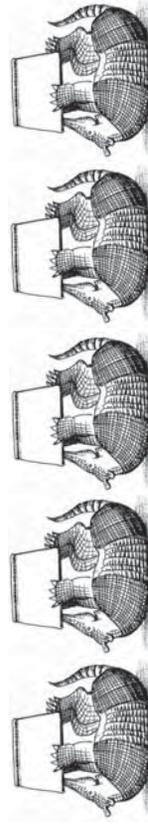
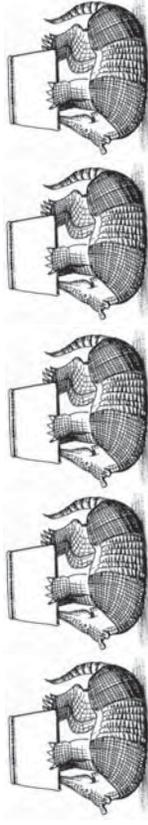
Grade: _____

Age: _____

Last day to turn in log: _____

Write the total time
you spent reading here: _____

Write the number of minutes you spend
reading each day on an armadillo's book.



© James Warhola

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2009 Club de Lectura Tejas

¡Bibliotecas: En lo más profundo del corazón de Tejas!



Diario del tiempo

Nombre/Apellido: _____

Ciudad: _____

Teléfono: _____

Escuela: _____

Grado: _____

Edad: _____

Último día volver la lista: _____

Promocionando conjuntamente por tu biblioteca y la Comisión de Archivos y Biblioteca del Estado de Texas

Escribe el total de minutos aquí: _____

En cada piñata escribe cuantos minutos lees cada día.



















































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Promocionando conjuntamente por tu biblioteca y la Comisión de Archivos y Biblioteca del Estado de Texas

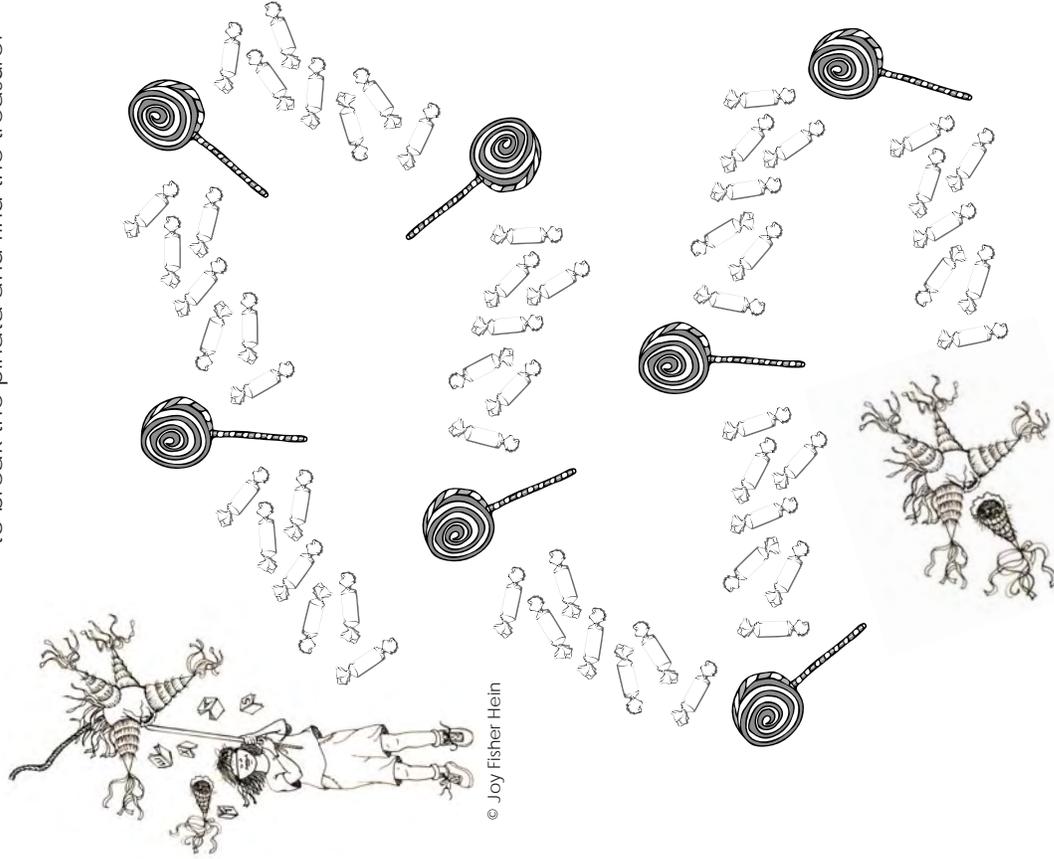
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Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!

Daily Reading Log

Reader's Name: _____

Color one piece of candy for each day you read to break the piñata and find the treasure.



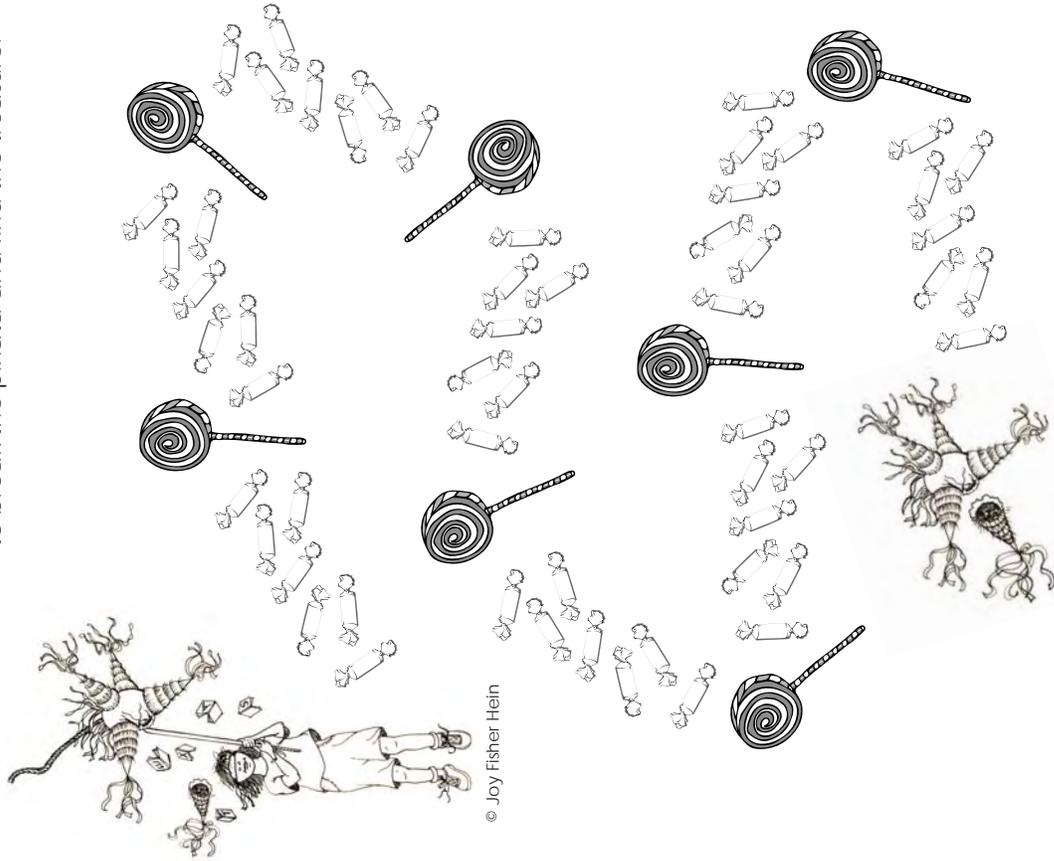
2009 Texas Reading Club

Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!

Daily Reading Log

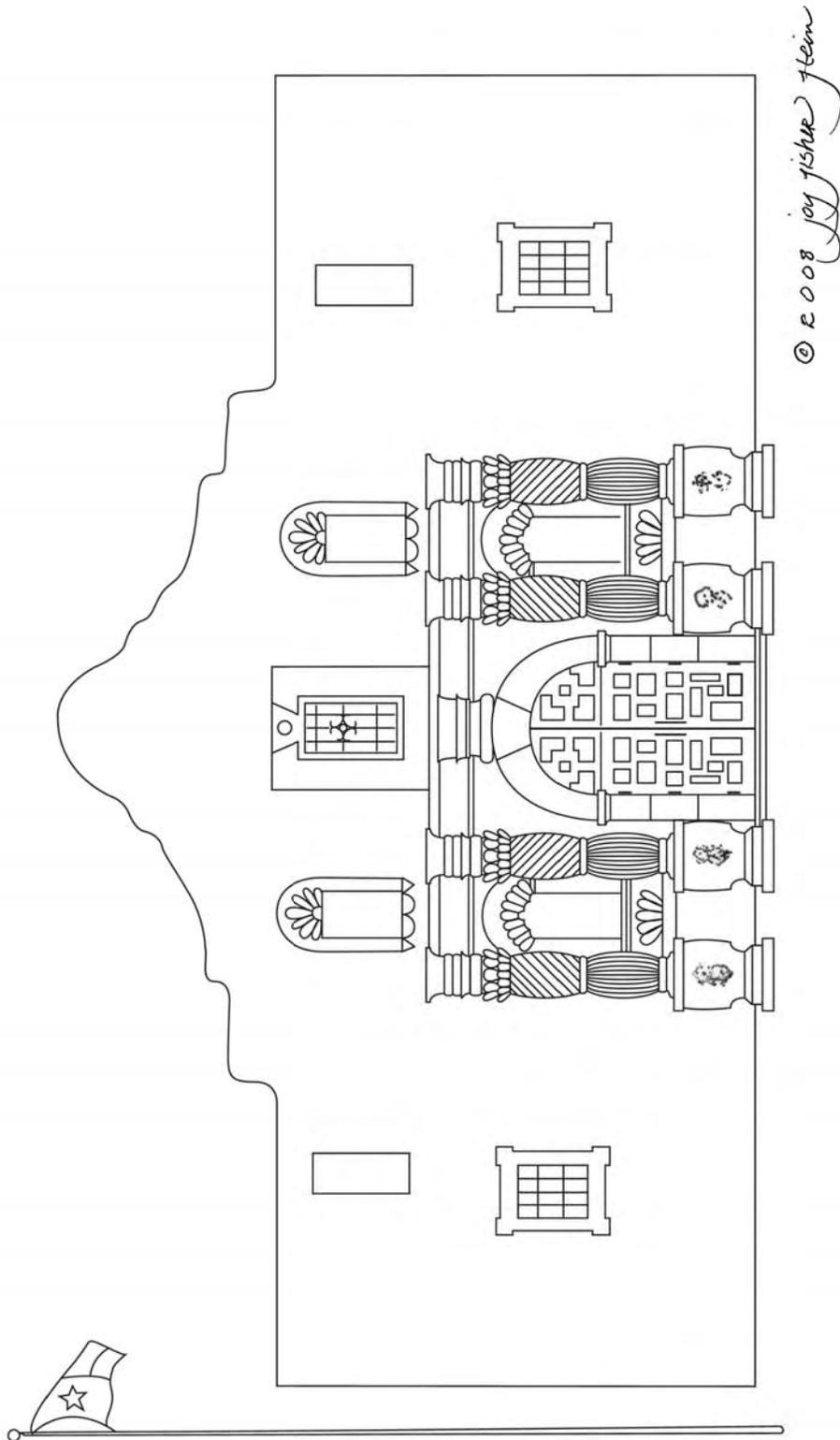
Reader's Name: _____

Color one piece of candy for each day you read to break the piñata and find the treasure.



Black & White Clip Art

Alamo



Bibliotecas



Texas State Flower: Bluebonnet



Texas State Flower: BLUEBONNET

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Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!

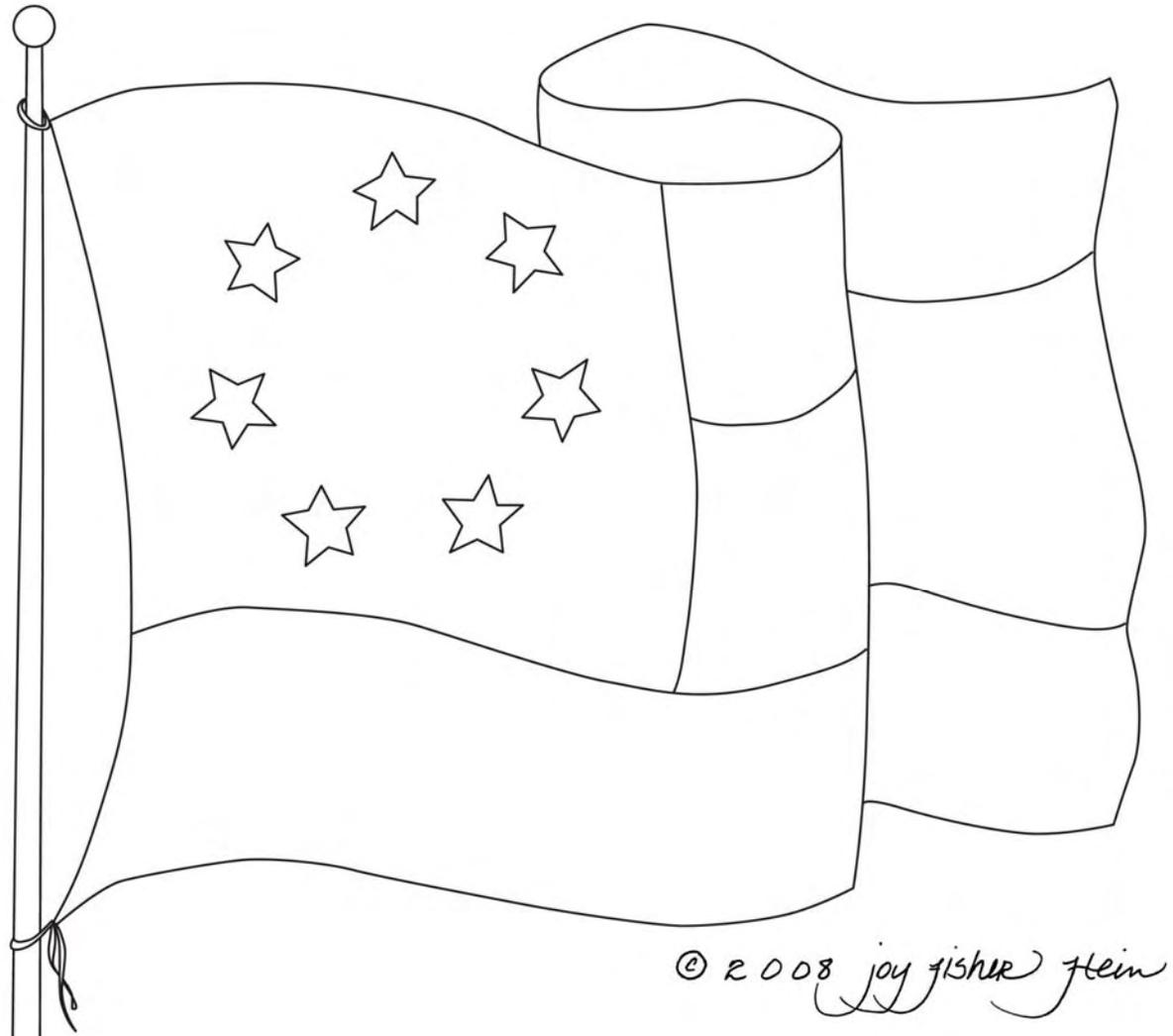
Published by the Library Development Division of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Austin, Texas 2009.

Boy Reading in Bed



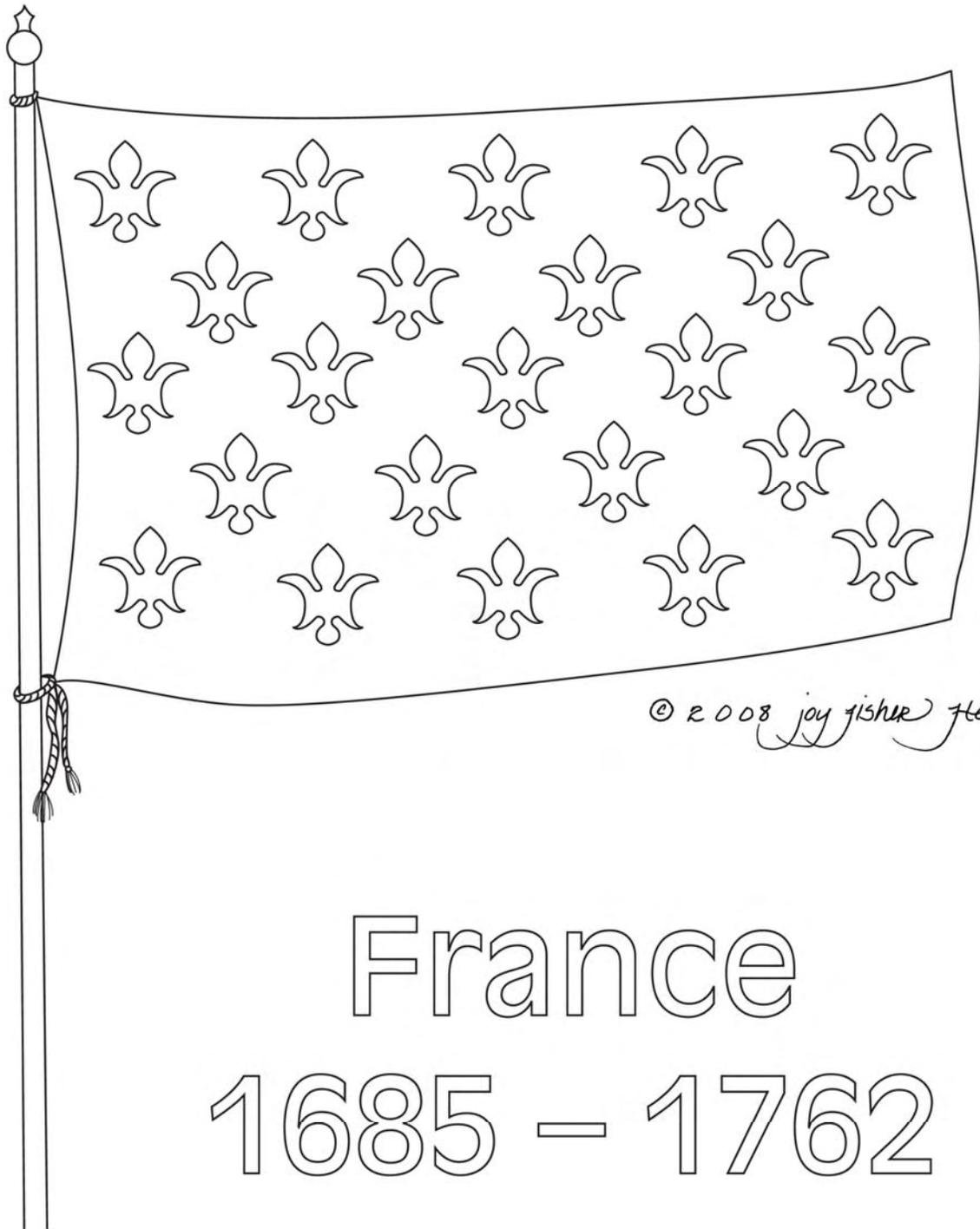
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Six Flags Over Texas – Confederate States of America



Confederate
States of America
1861 – 1865

Six Flags Over Texas – France



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France

1685 - 1762

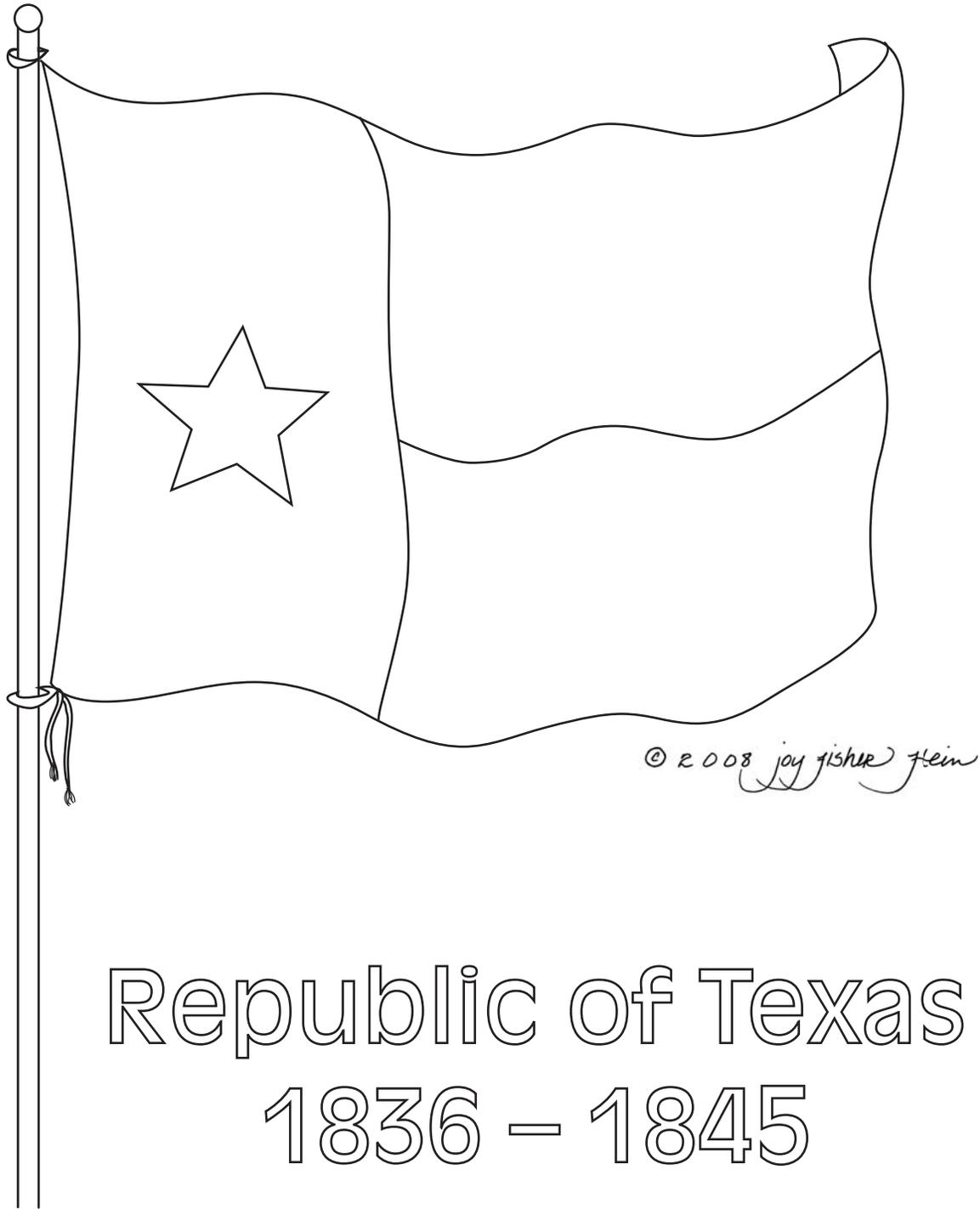
Six Flags Over Texas – Mexico



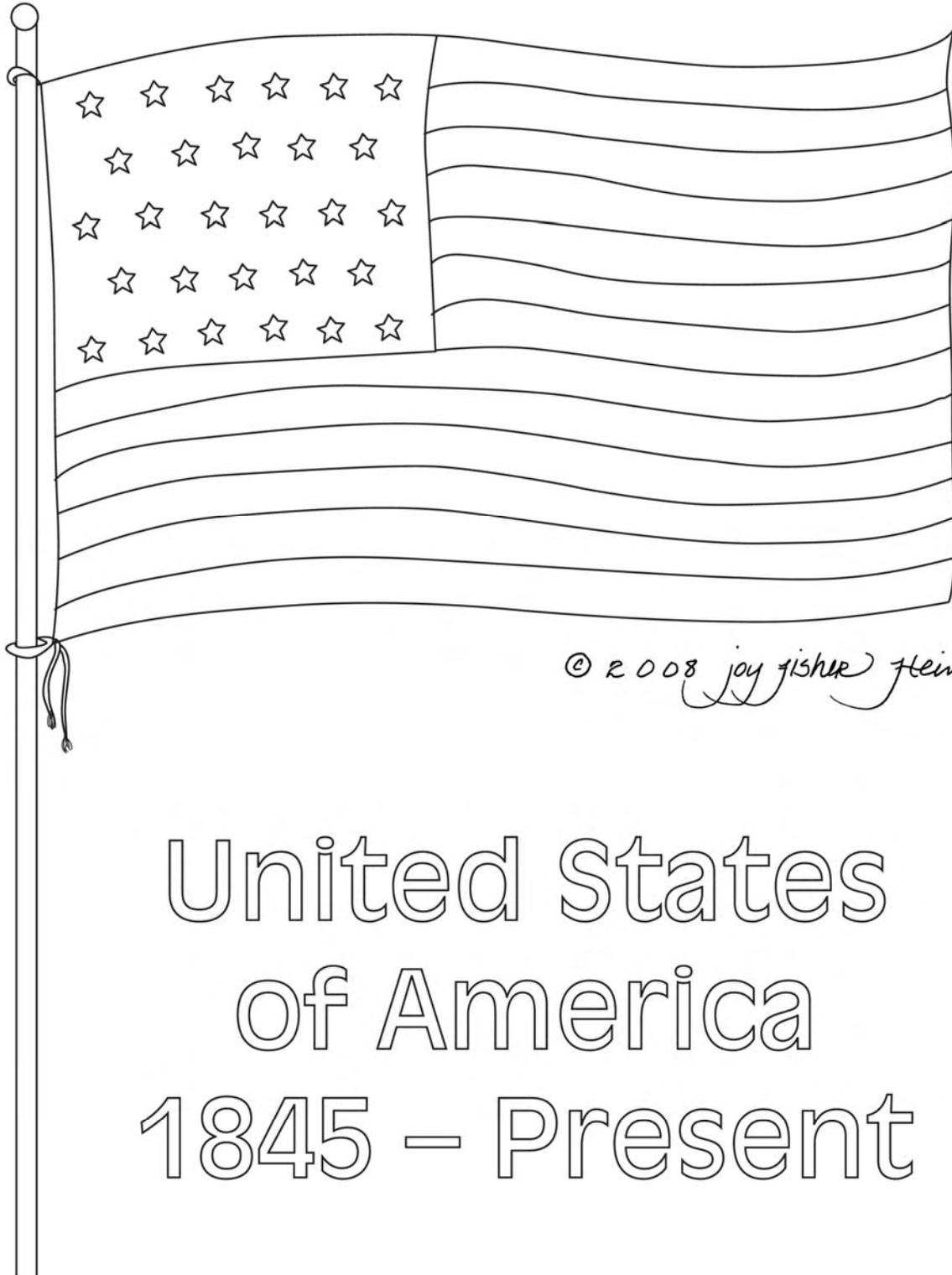
Six Flags Over Texas – Spain



Six Flags Over Texas – Republic of Texas



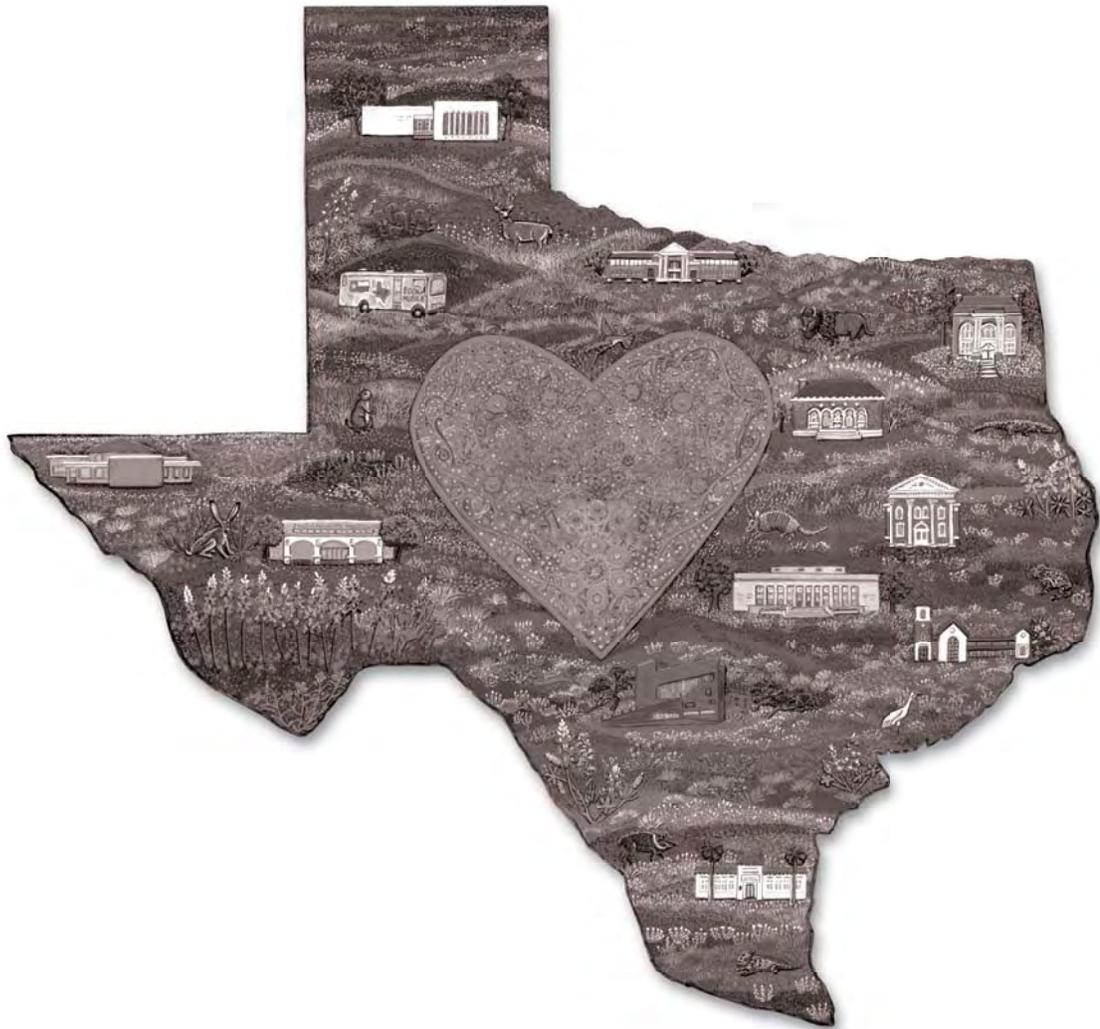
Six Flags Over Texas – United States of America



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United States
of America
1845 – Present

Heart of Texas

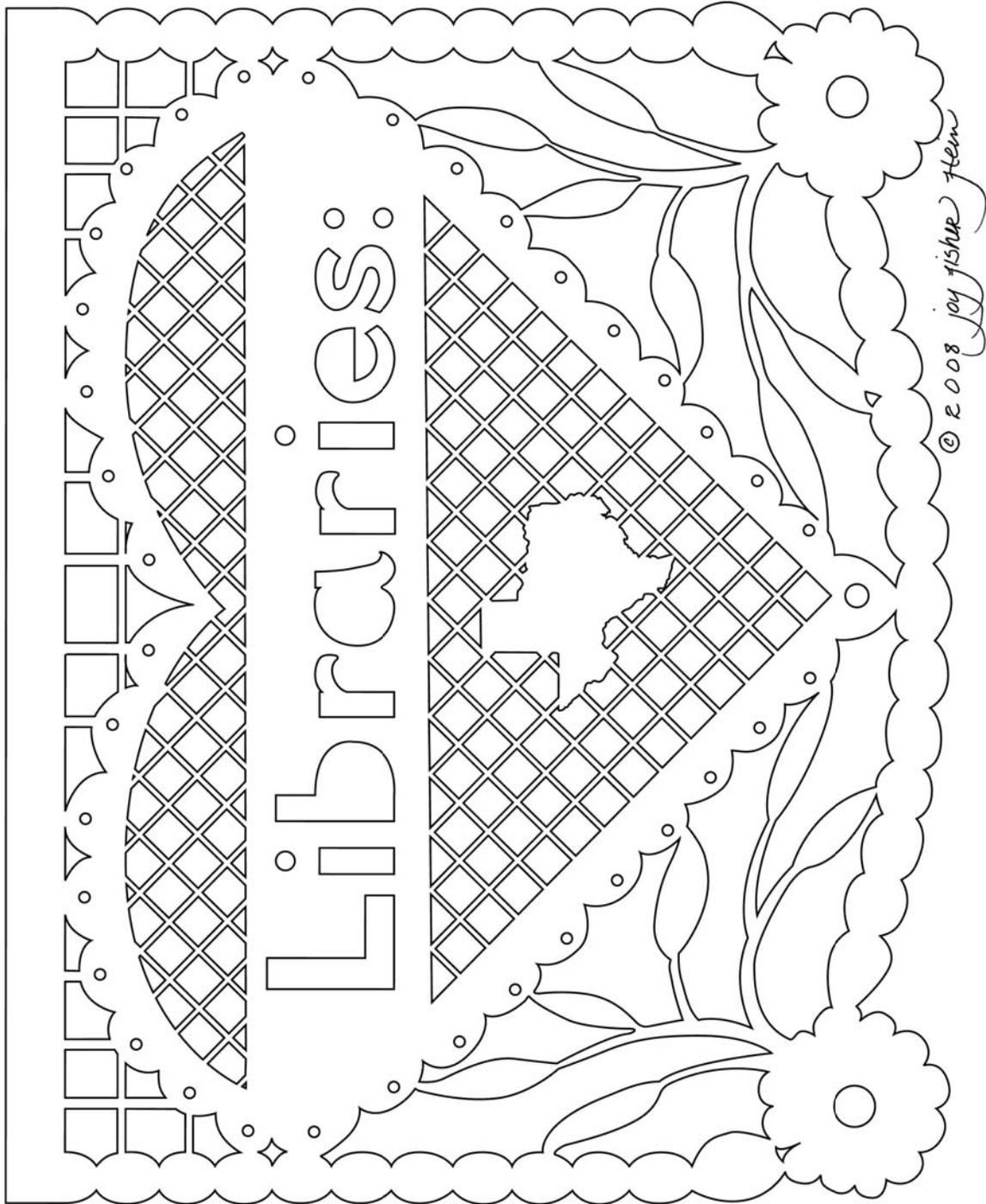


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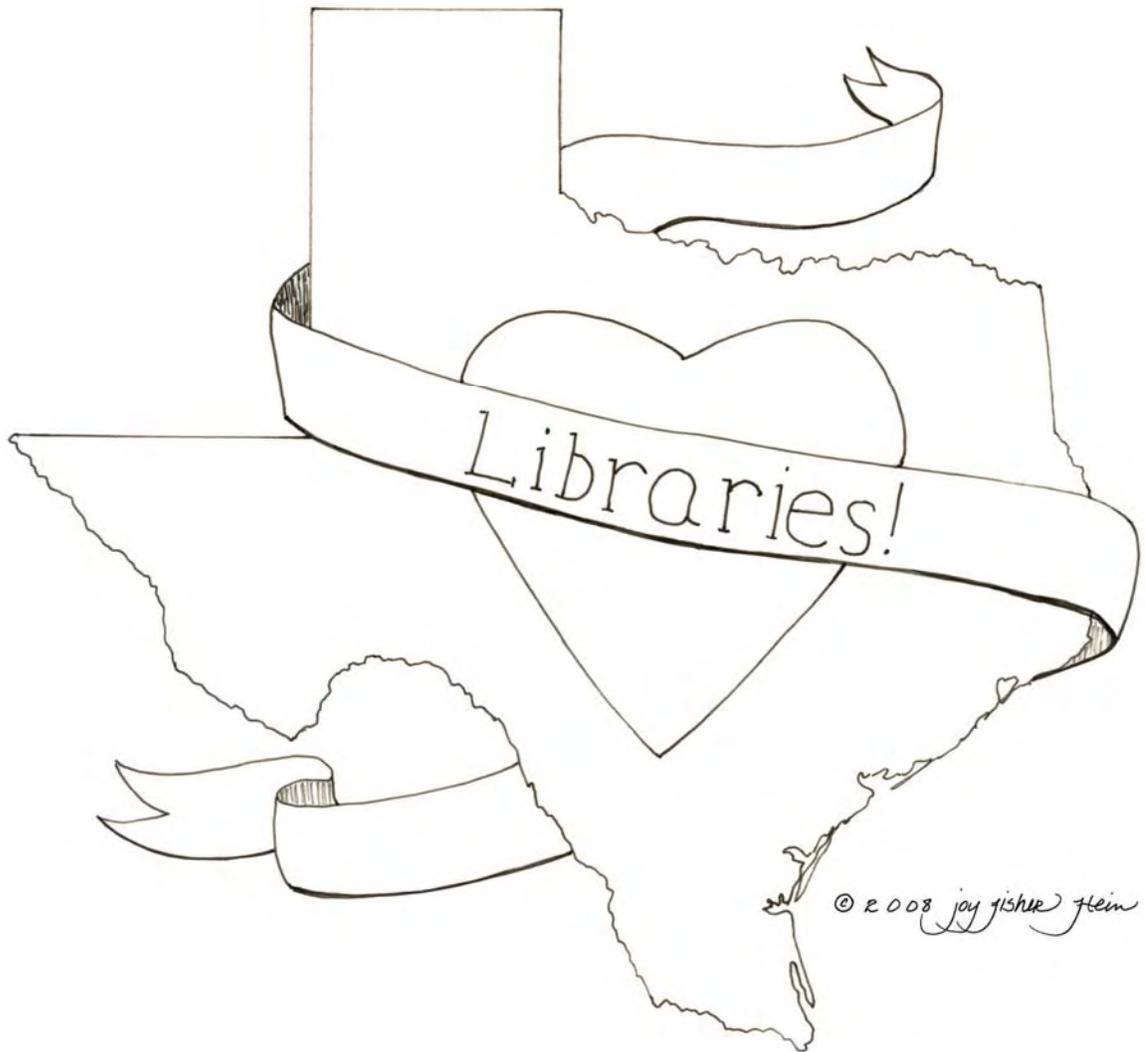
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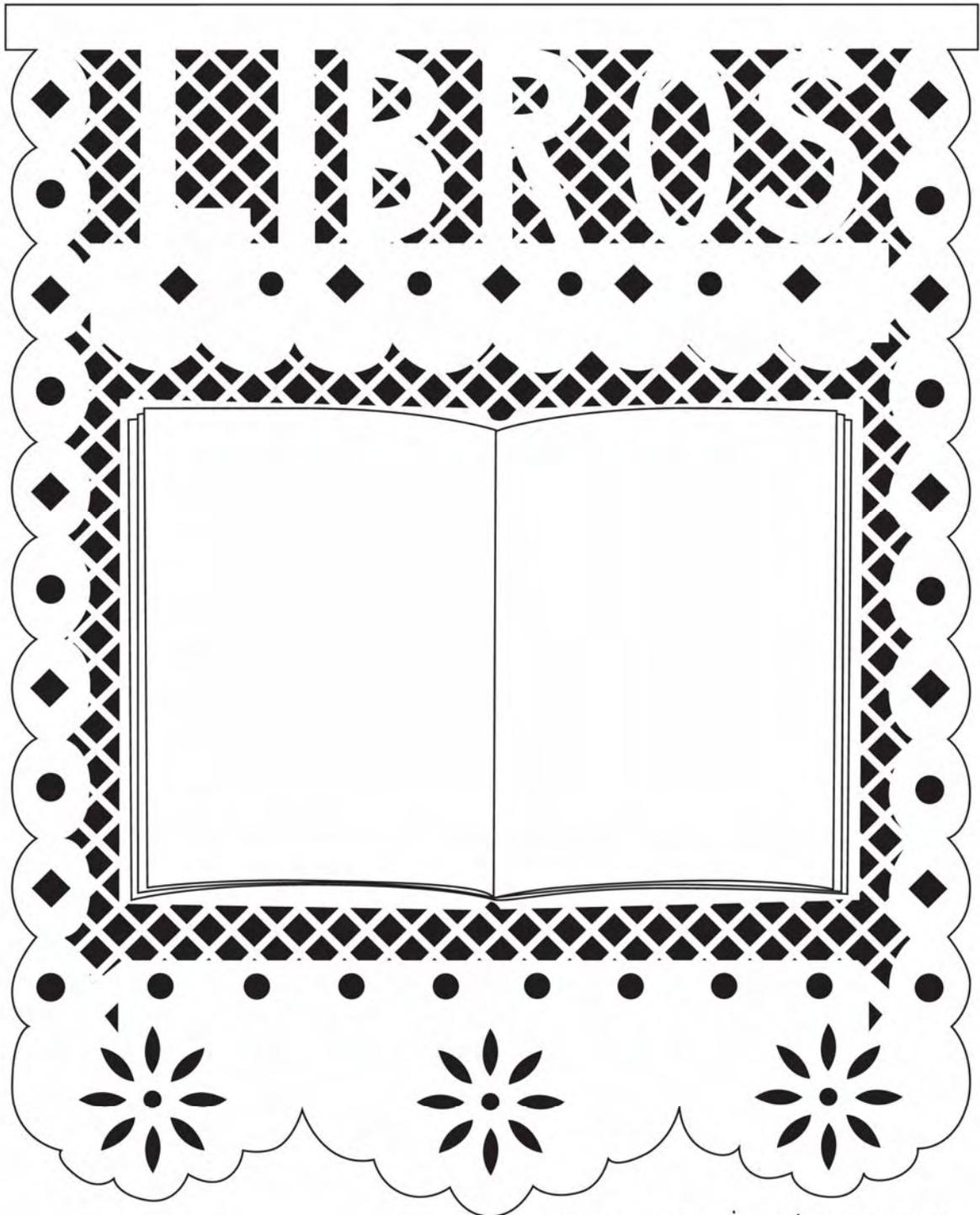
Libraries in the Heart



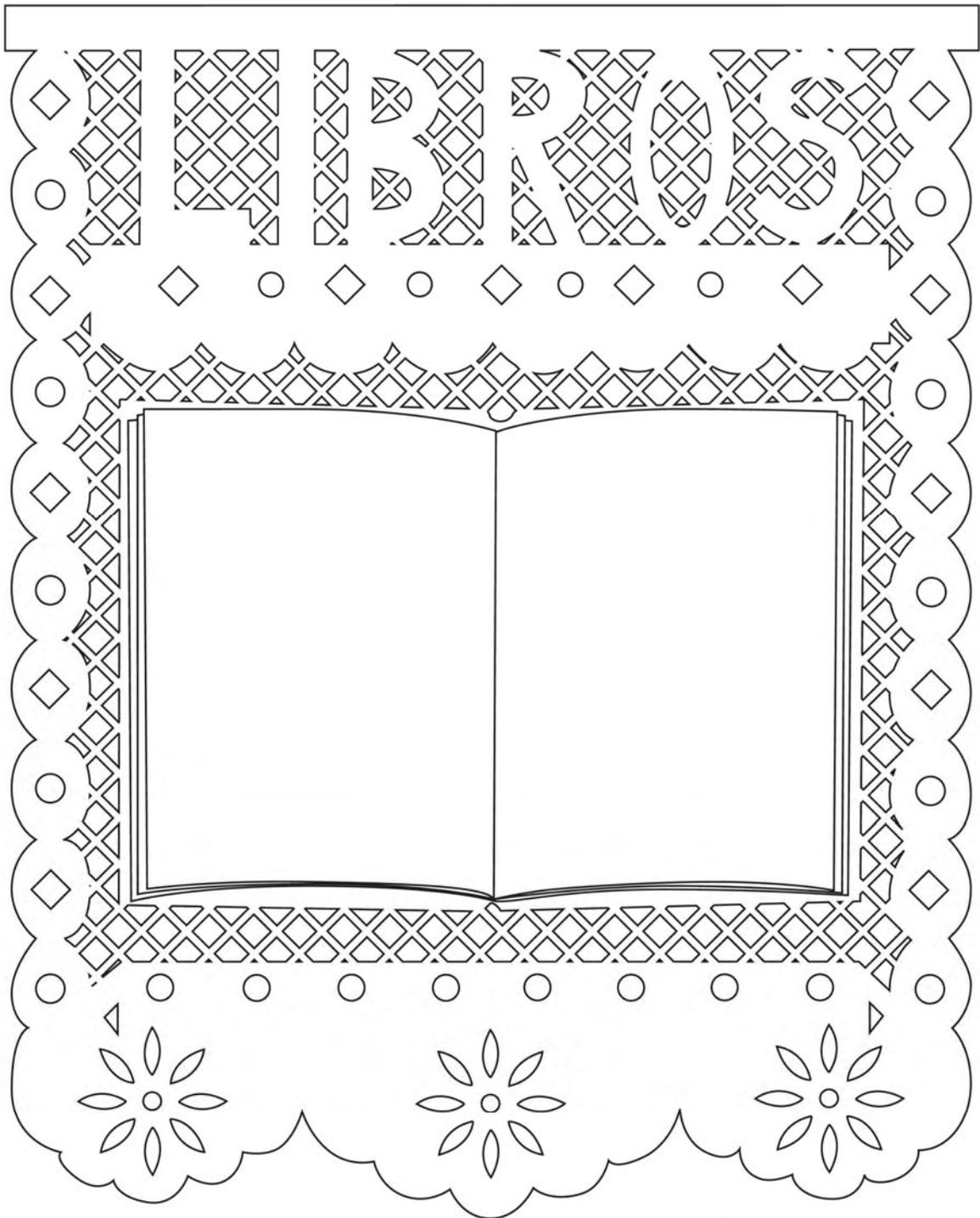
Libraries



Libros Negative

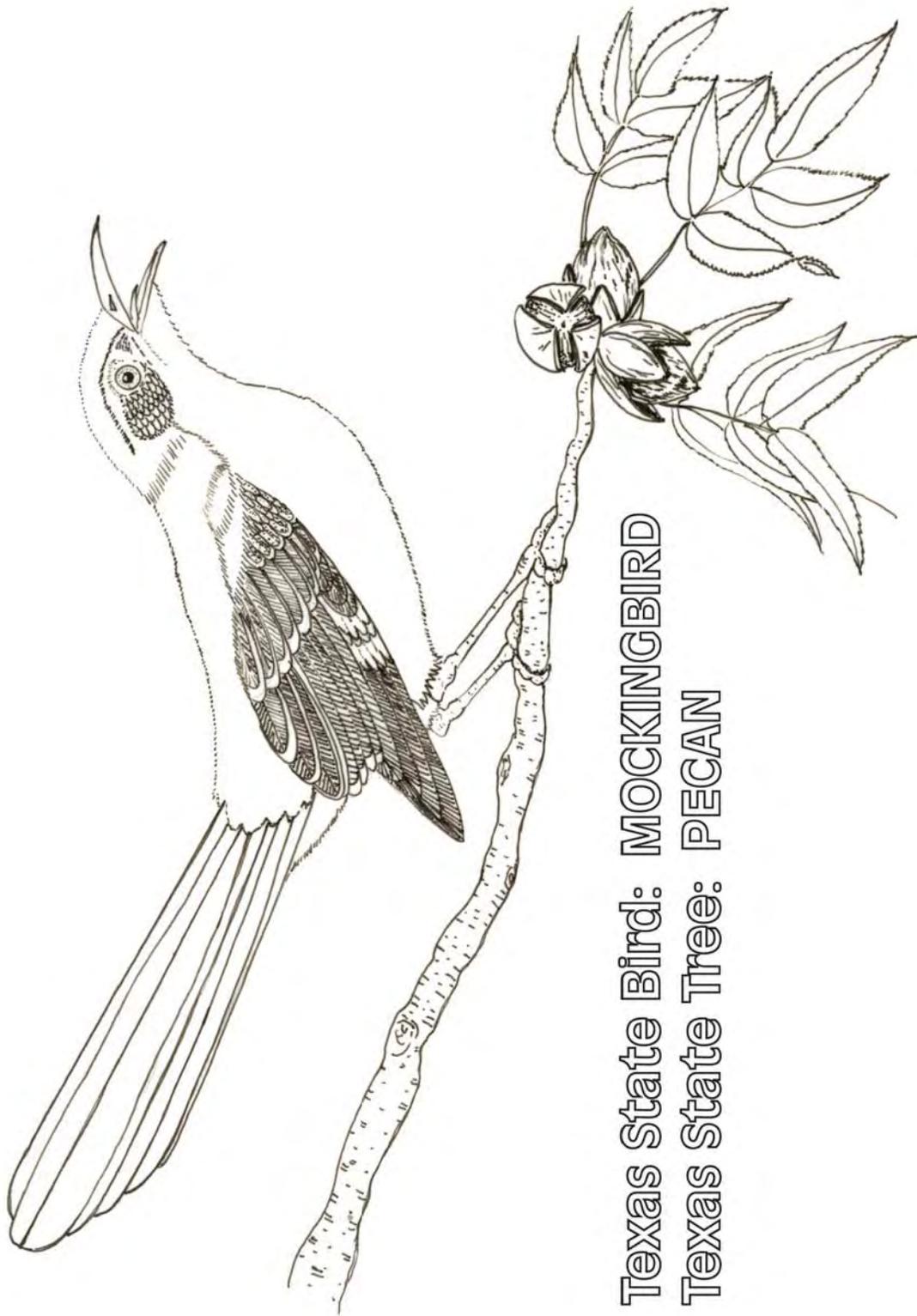


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Texas State Bird – Mockingbird / Texas State Tree – Pecan



Texas State Bird: MOCKINGBIRD
Texas State Tree: PECAN

Texas State Insect – Monarch Butterfly



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Texas State Insect: MONARCH BUTTERFLY

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On Top of the World



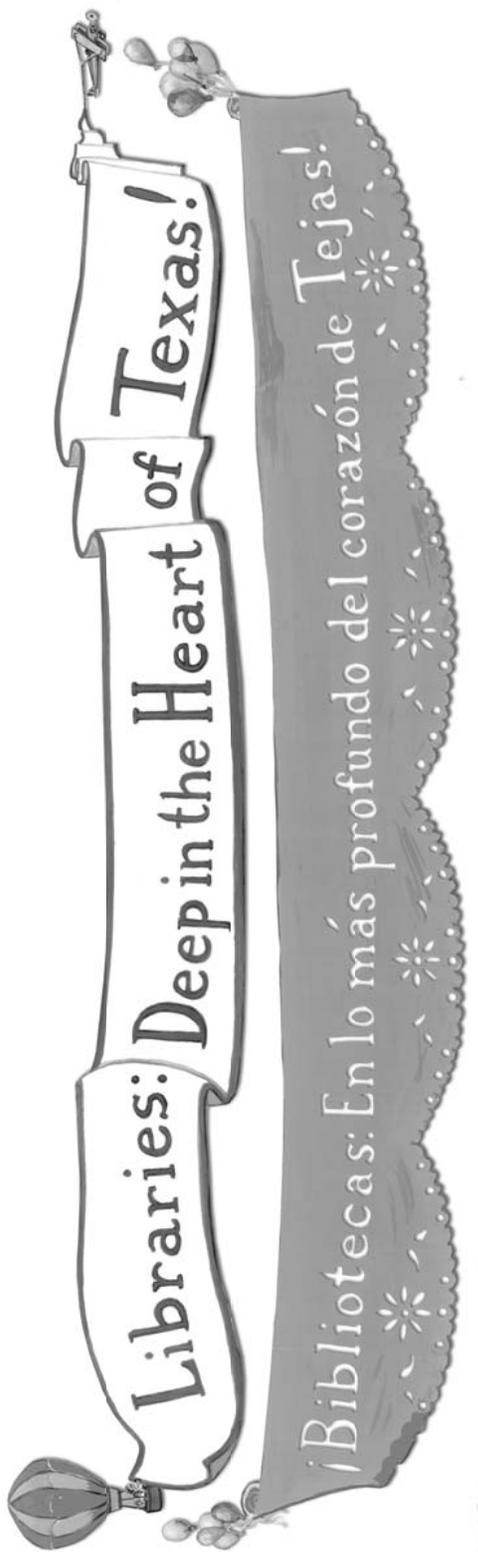
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Piñata



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Poster Banner

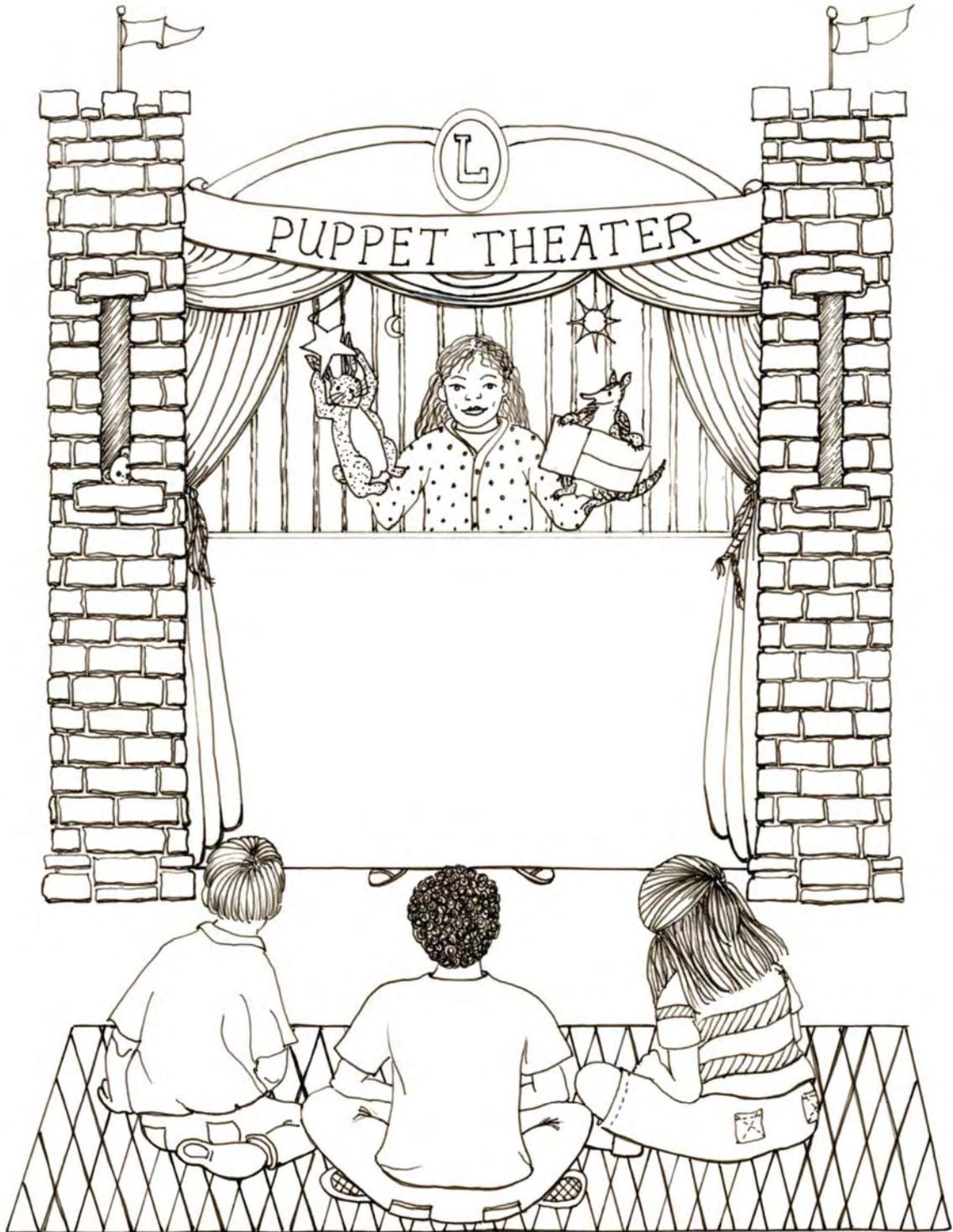


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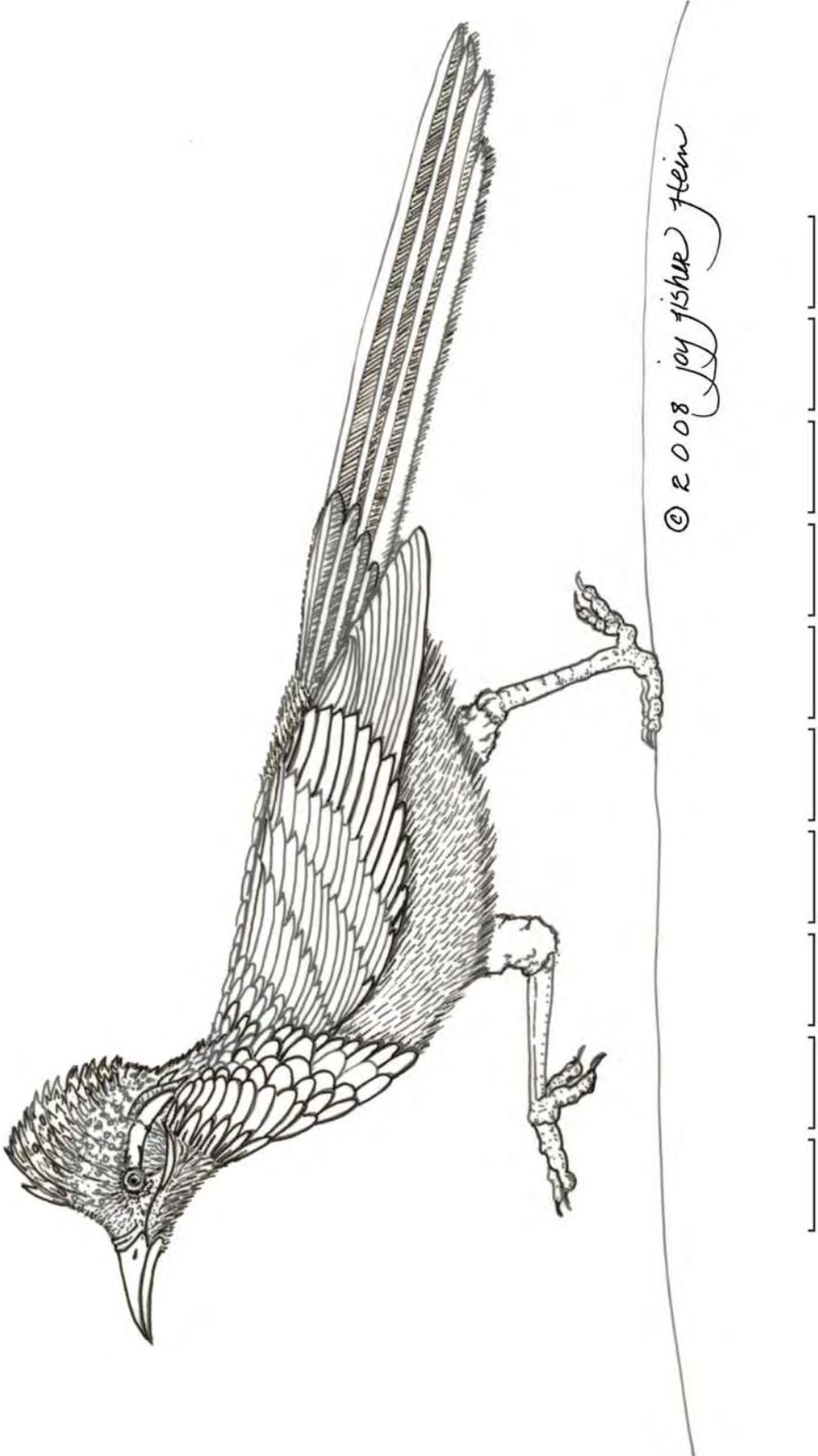
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Puppet Theater



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Roadrunner



Texas Nature Negative

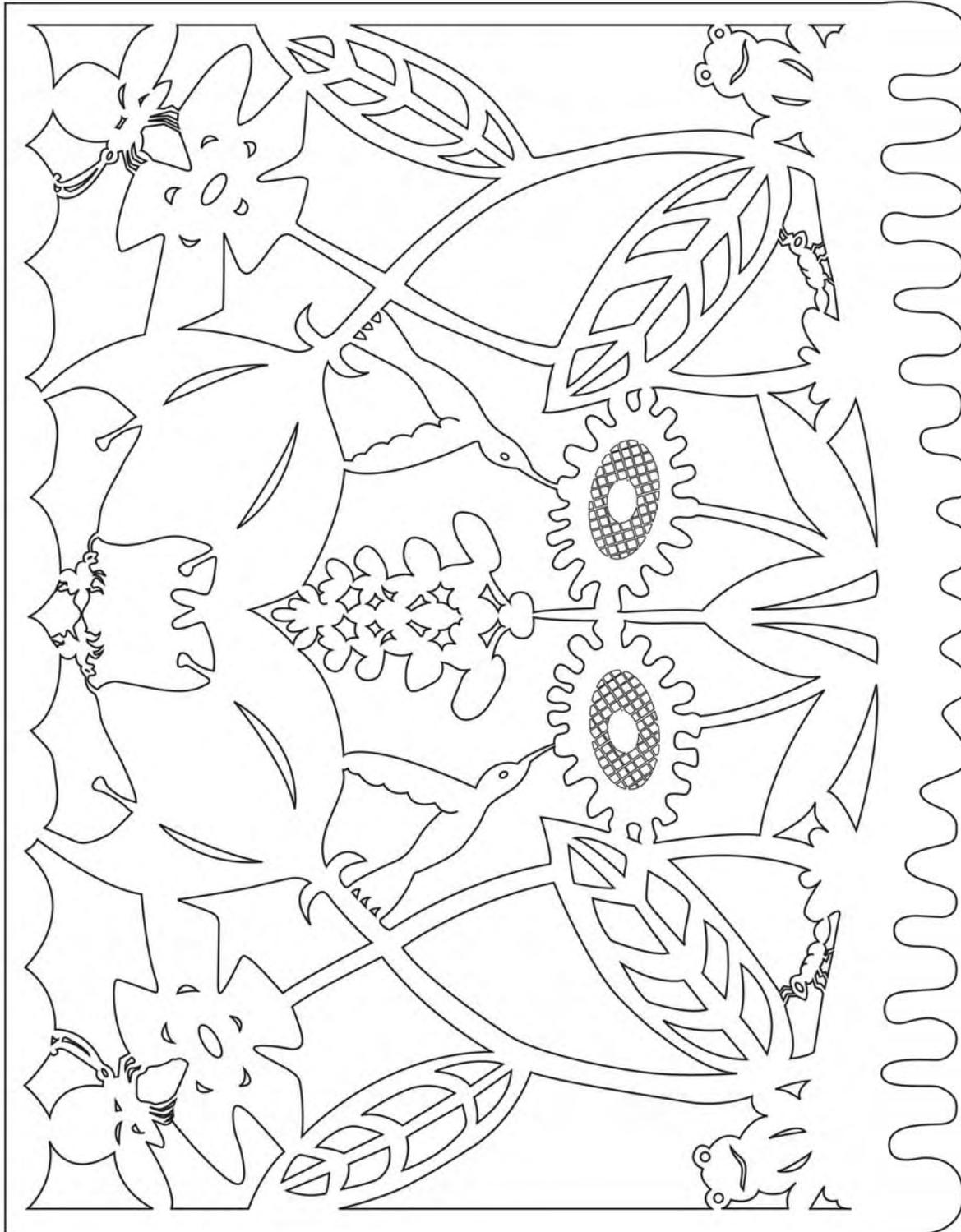


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Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!

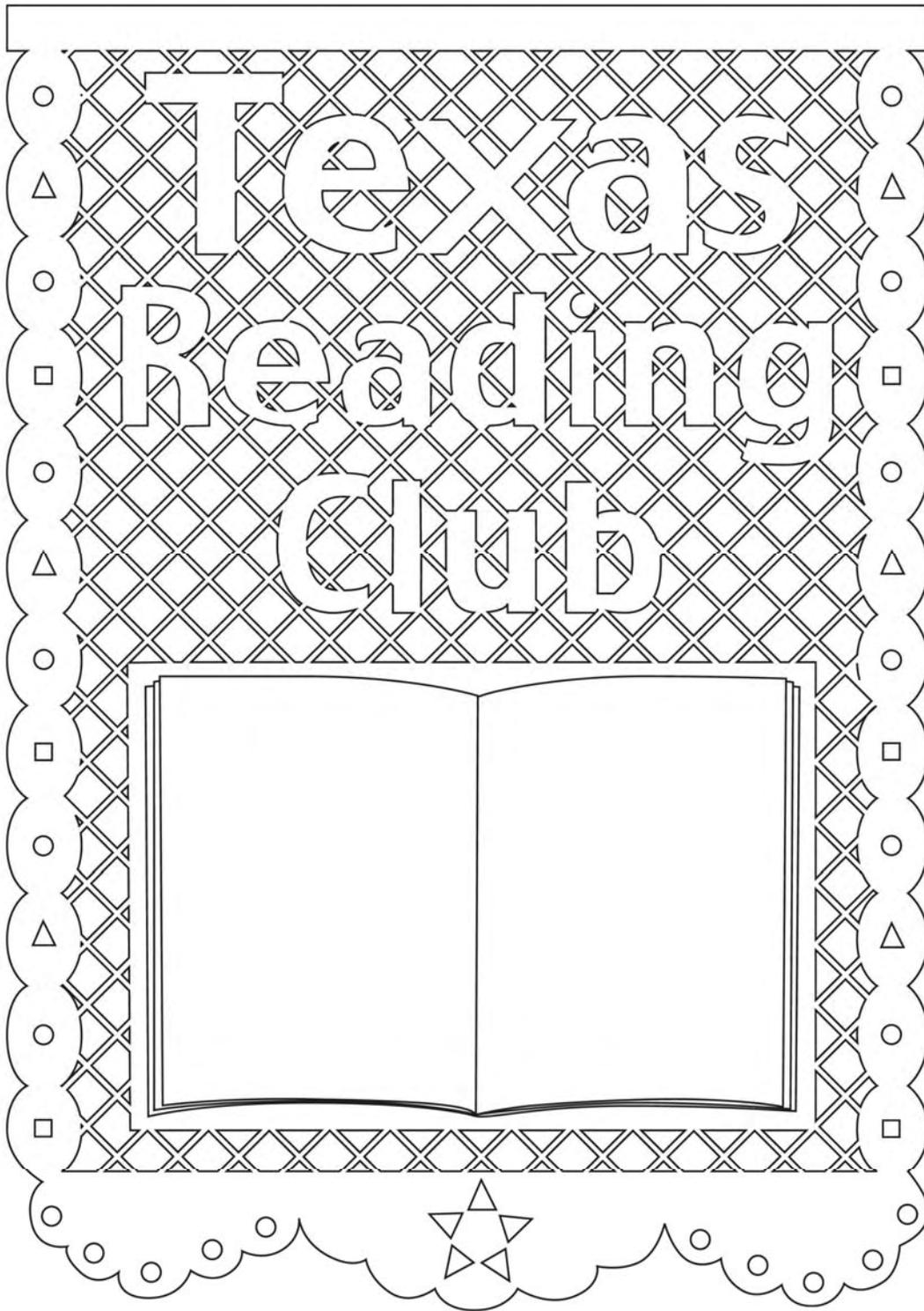
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Texas Nature Positive



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Texas Reading Club



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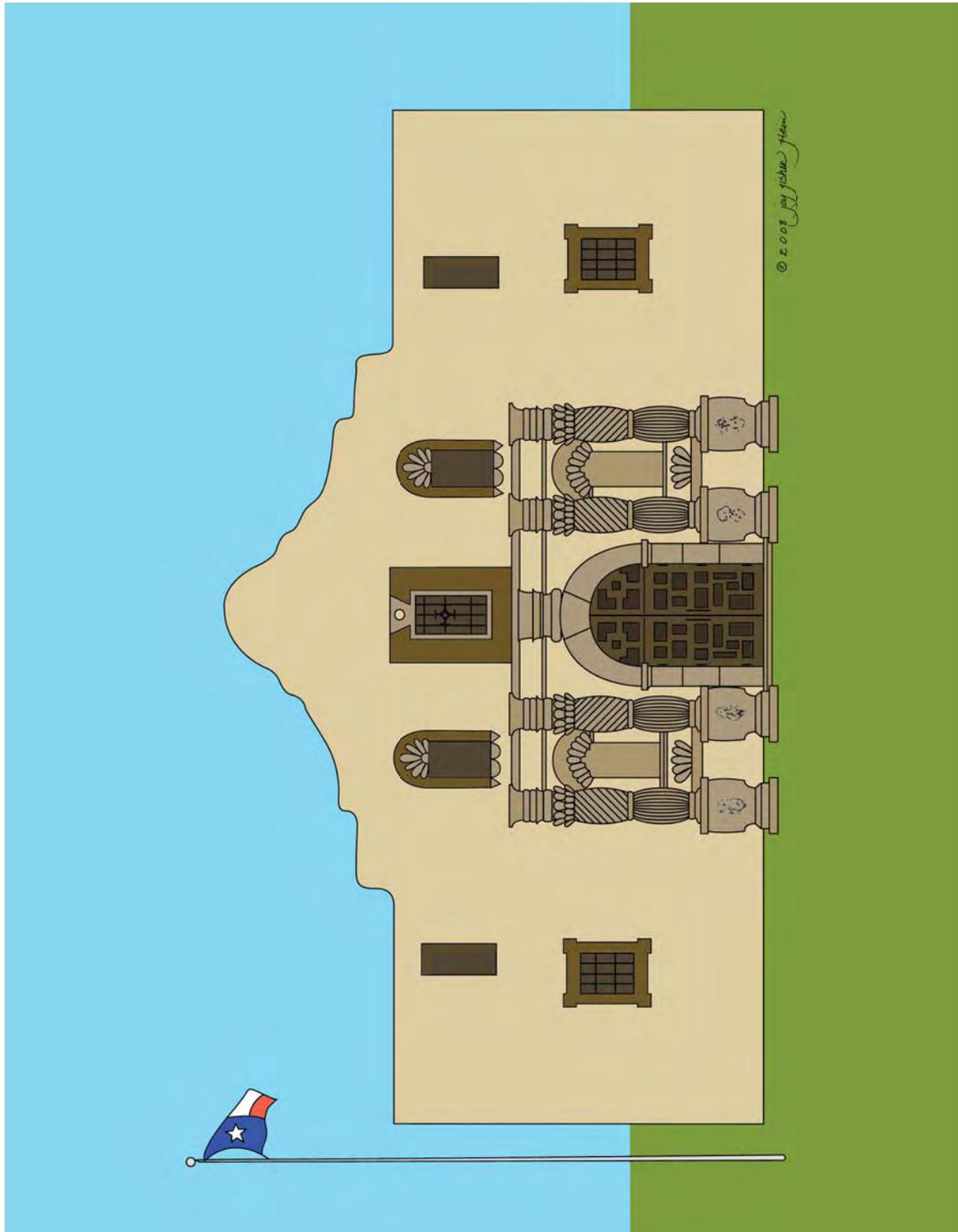
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Libraries: Deep in the Heart of Texas!

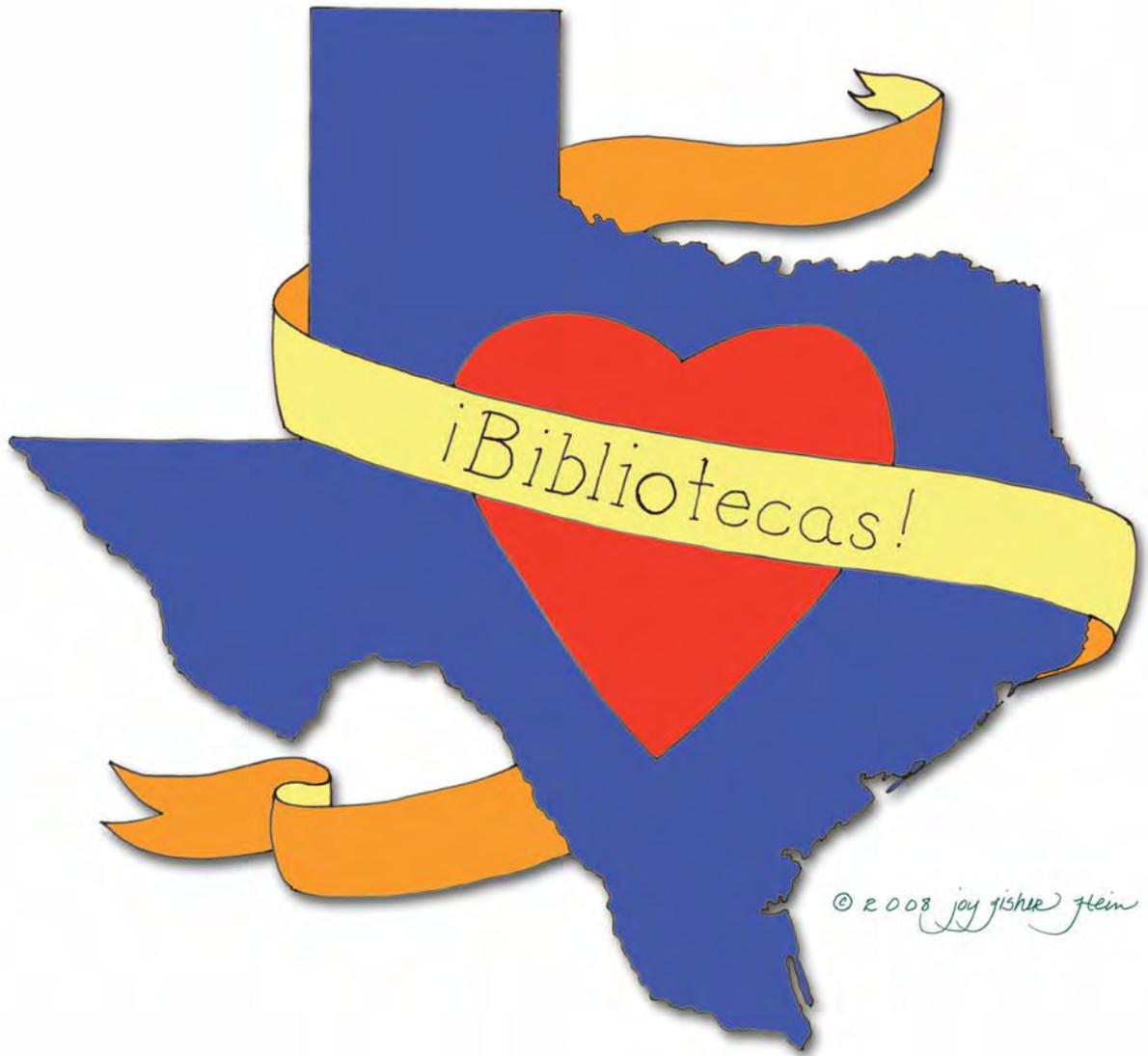
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Color Clip Art

Alamo

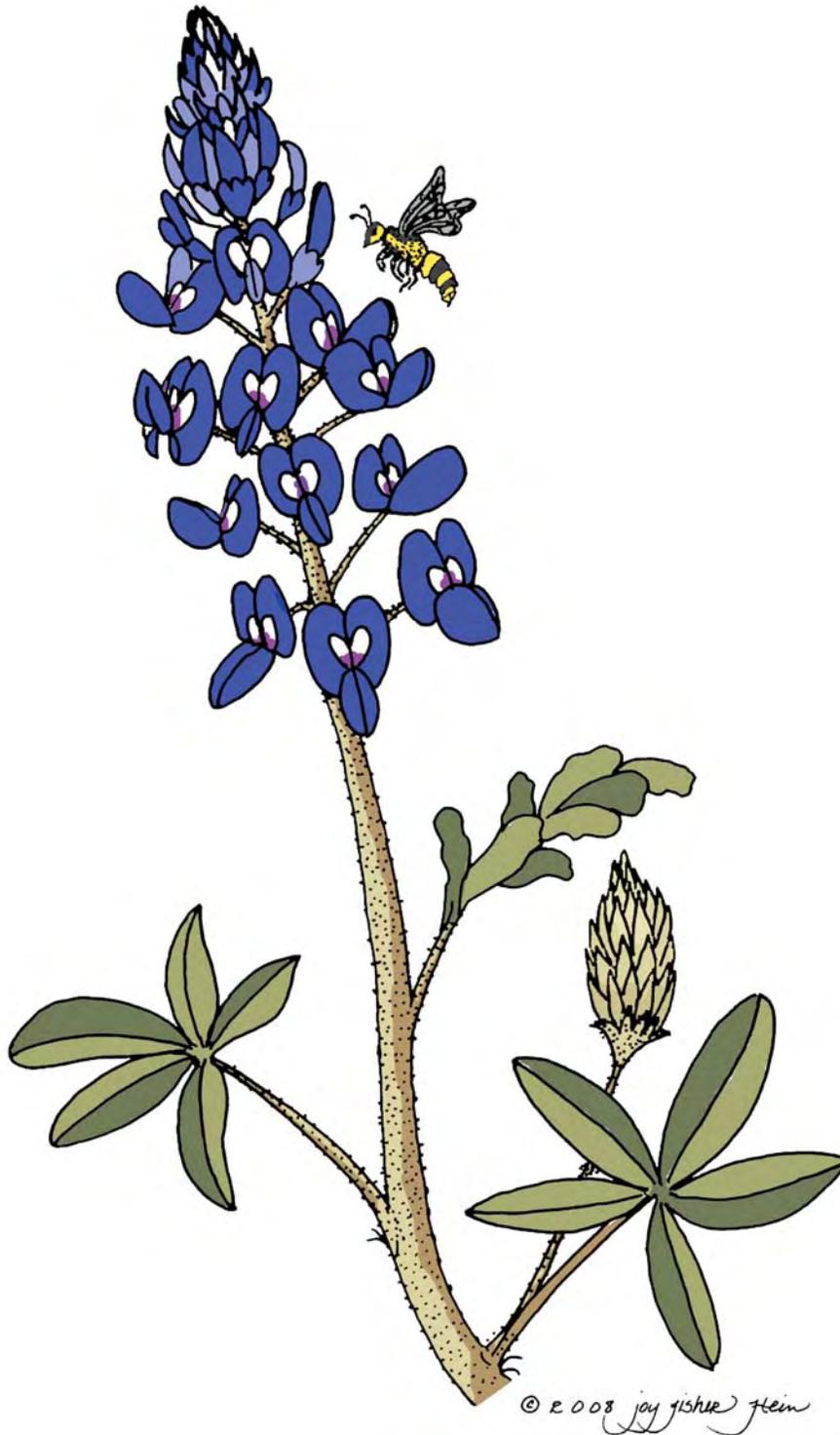


Bibliotecas



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Texas State Flower: Bluebonnet



Texas State Flower: **BLUEBONNET**

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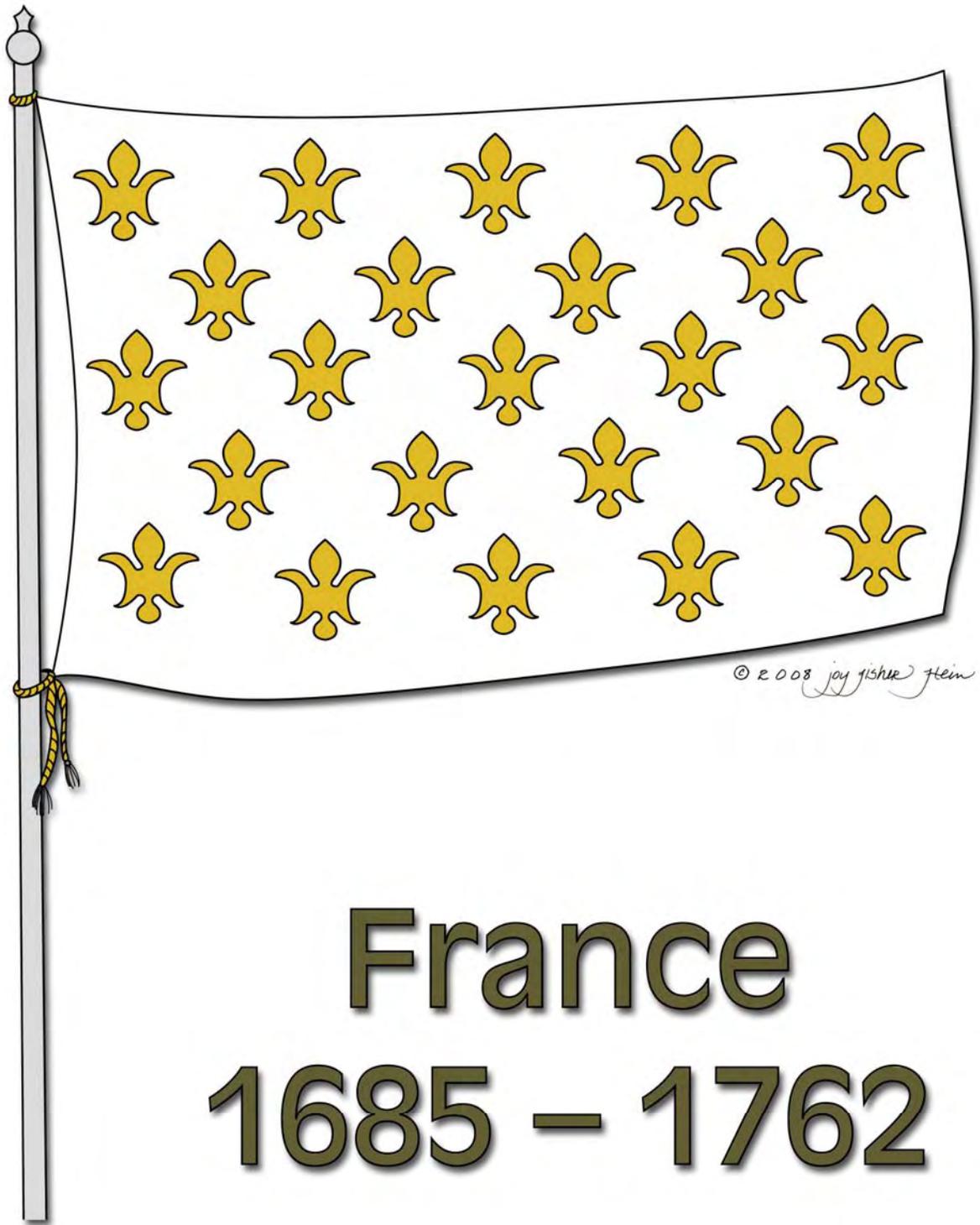
Boy Reading in Bed





Confederate States of America 1861 – 1865

Six Flags Over Texas – France



France

1685 – 1762

Six Flags Over Texas – Mexico

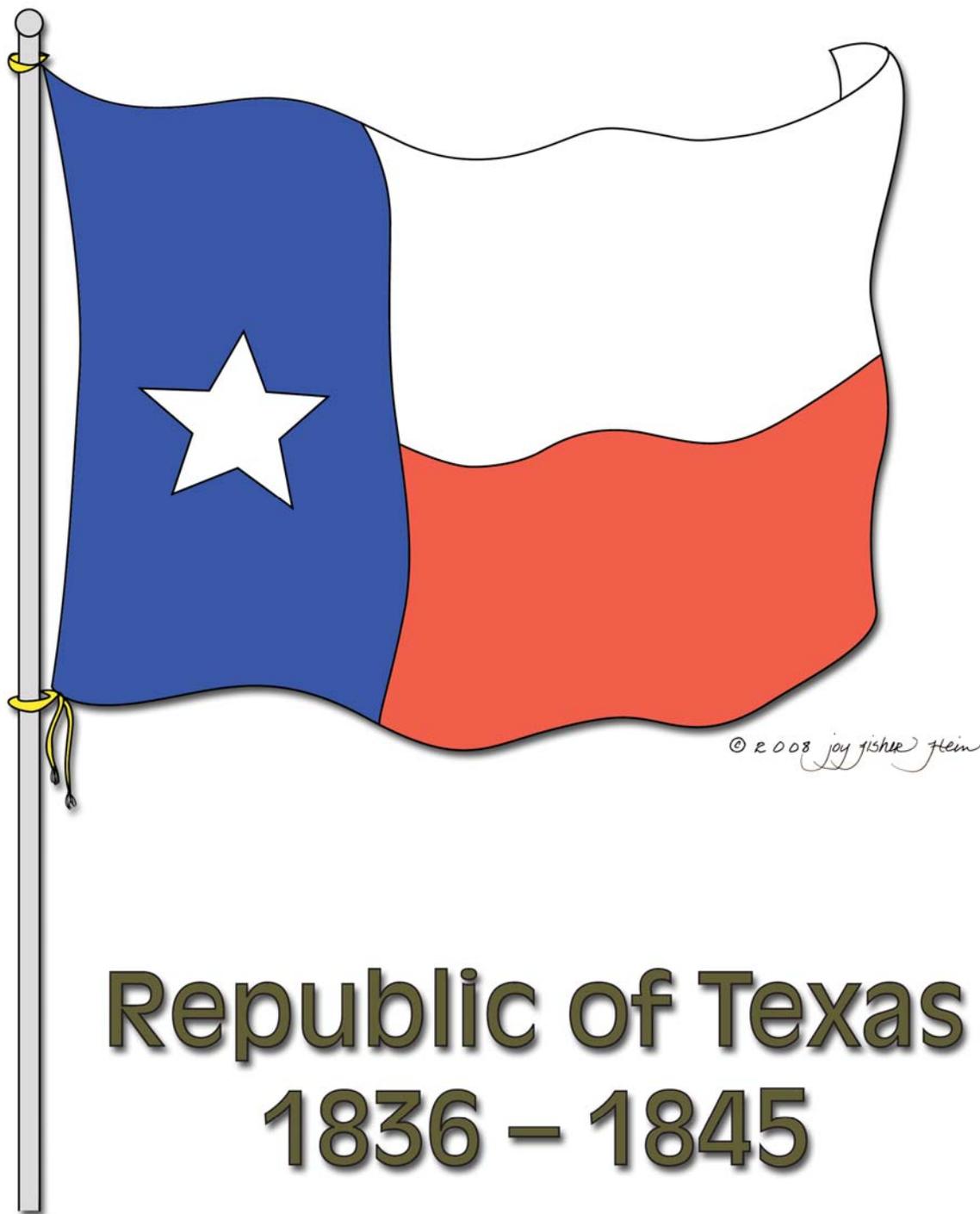


Six Flags Over Texas – Spain

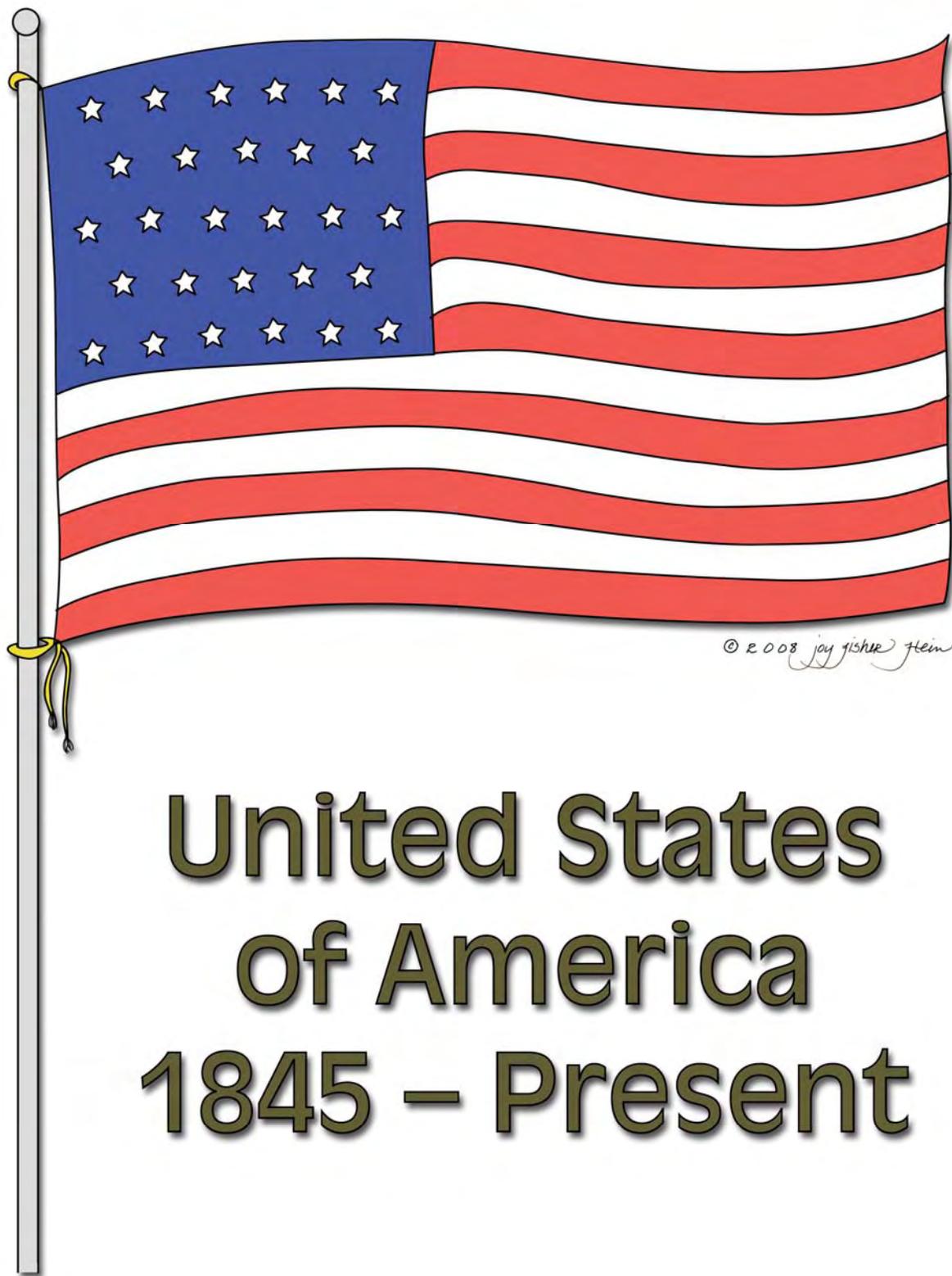


Spain

1519 – 1821



Republic of Texas 1836 – 1845

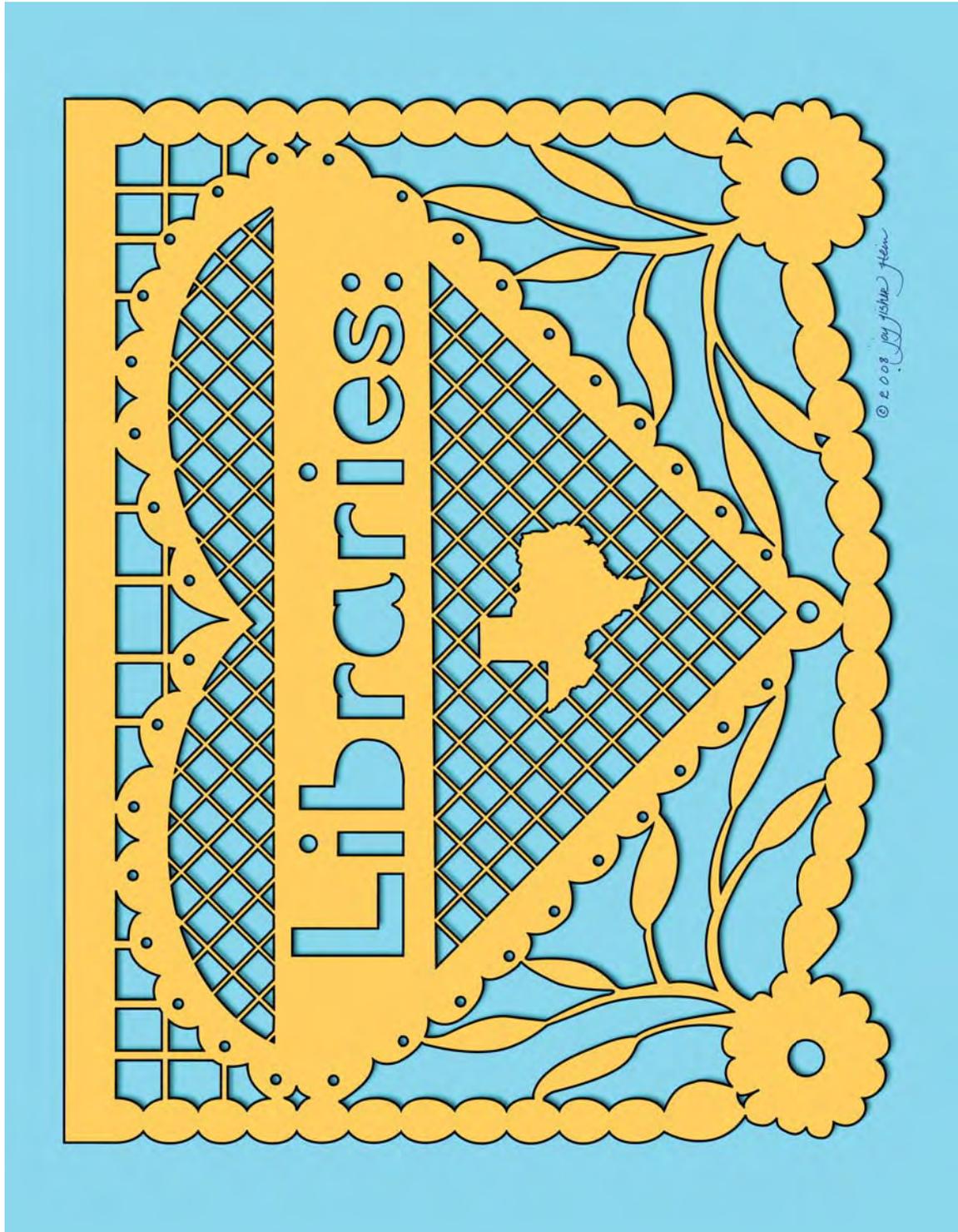


United States of America 1845 – Present

Heart of Texas



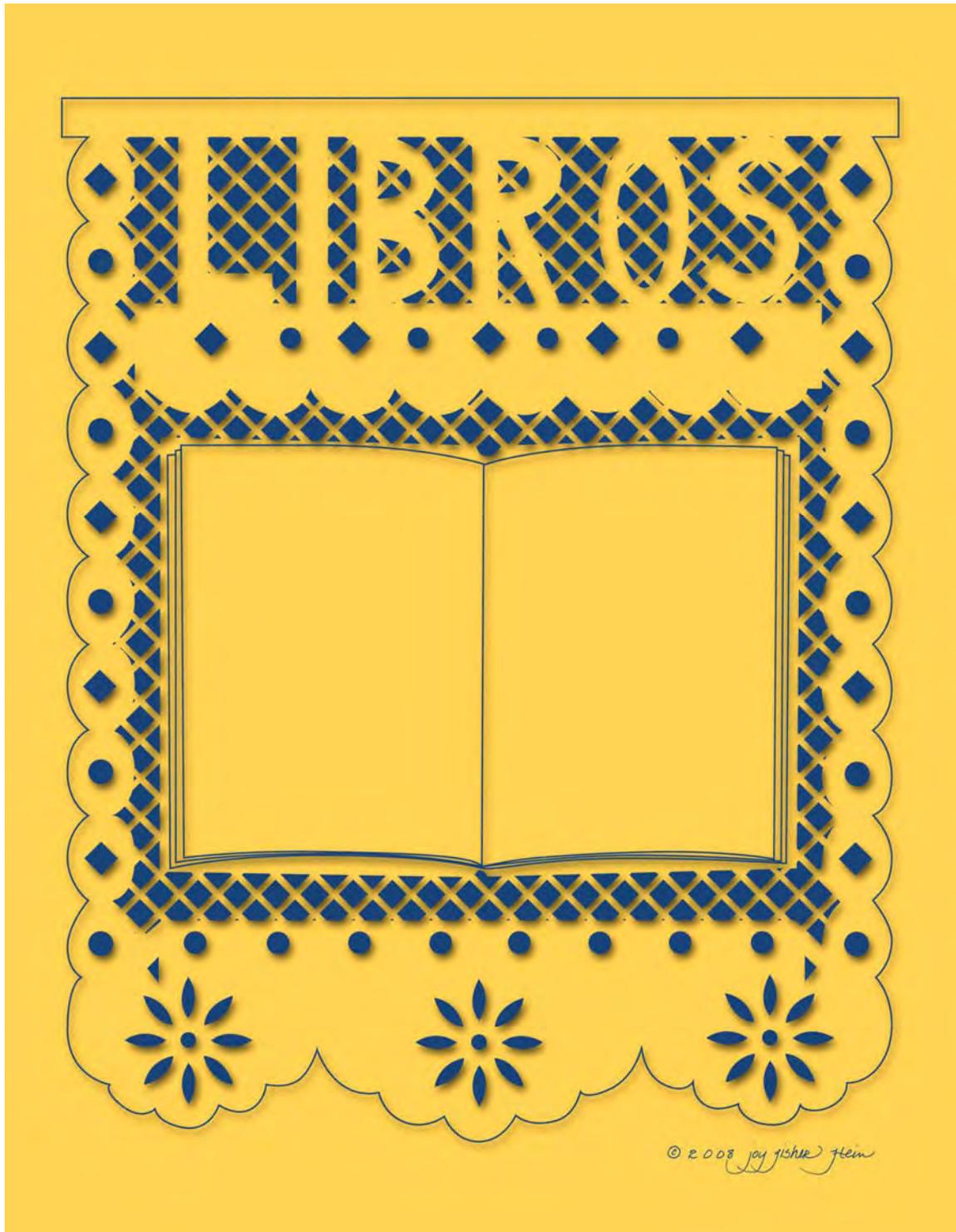
Libraries in the Heart



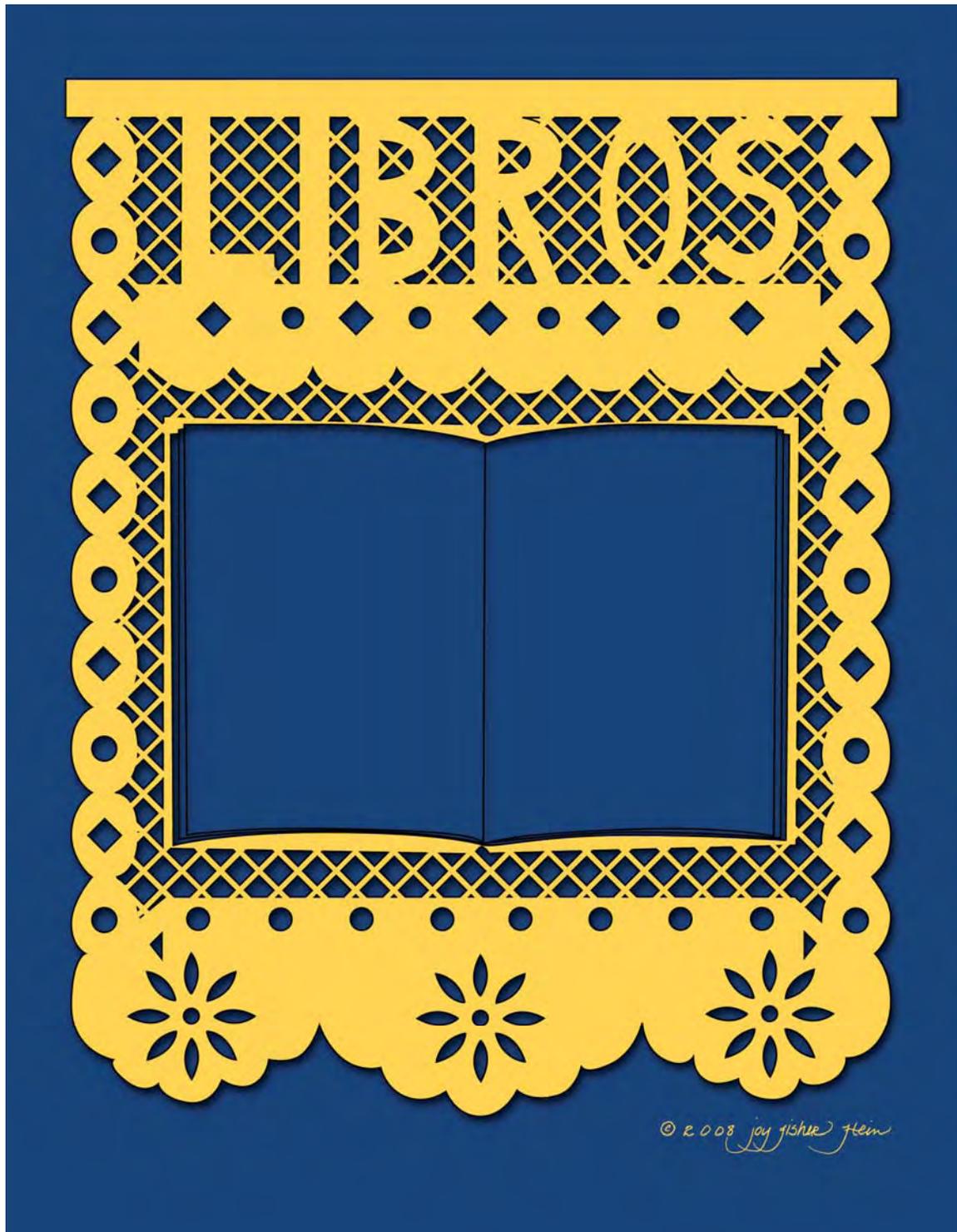
Libraries



Libros Negative



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Texas State Bird – Mockingbird / Texas State Tree – Pecan



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Texas State Bird: MOCKINGBIRD
Texas State Tree: PECAN

Texas State Insect – Monarch Butterfly



Texas State Insect: MONARCH BUTTERFLY

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On Top of the World



Piñata



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Poster Banner

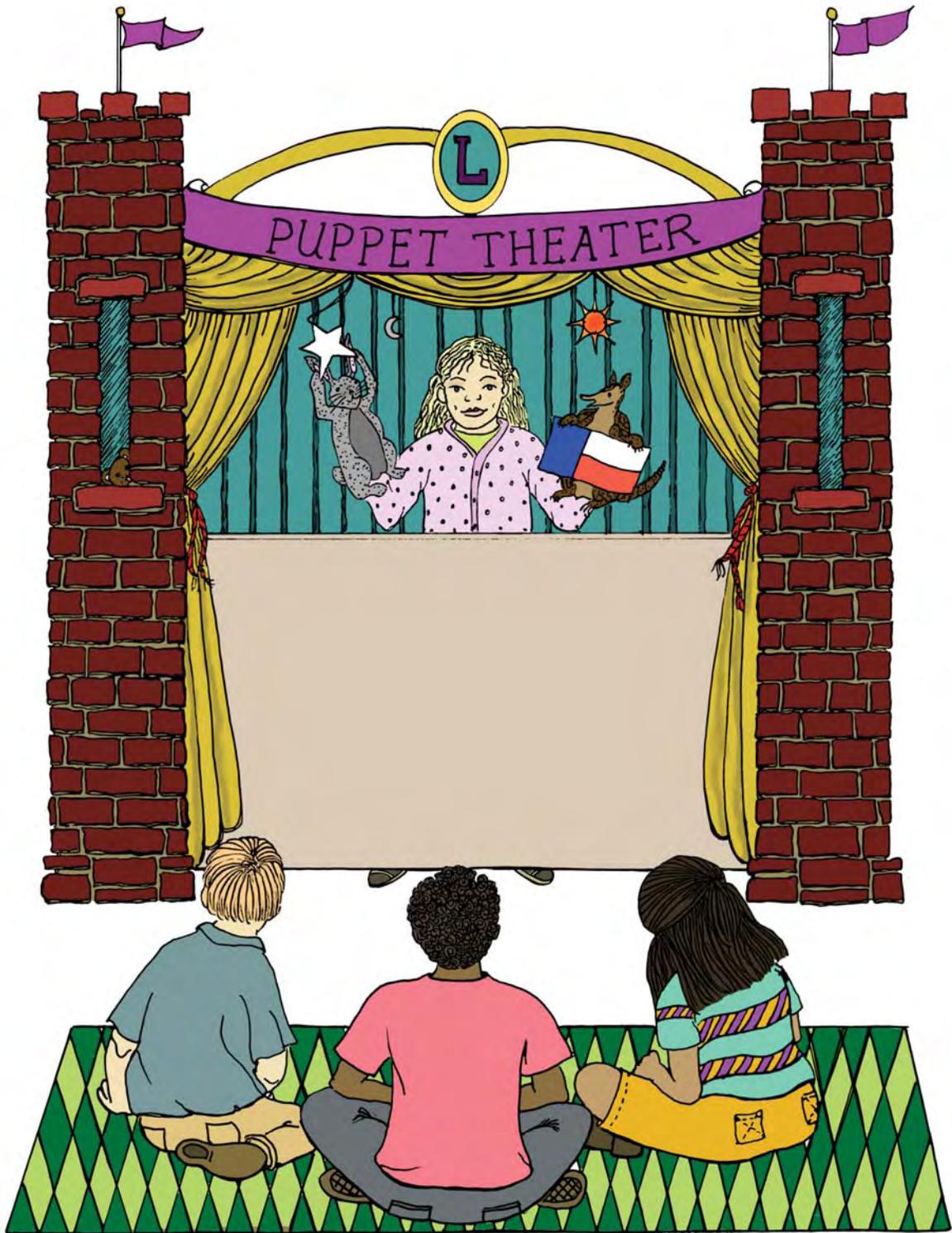


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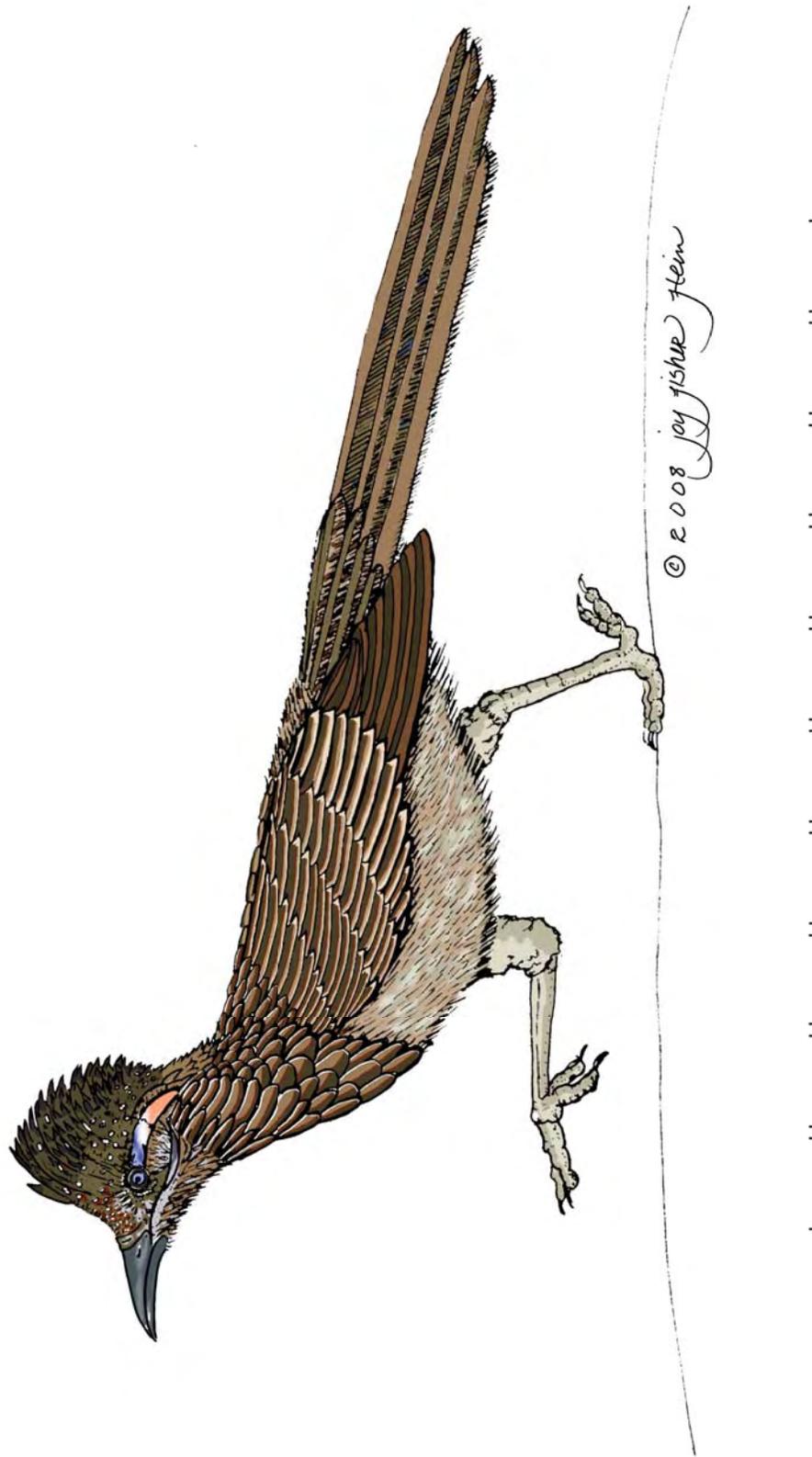
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Puppet Theater



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Roadrunner

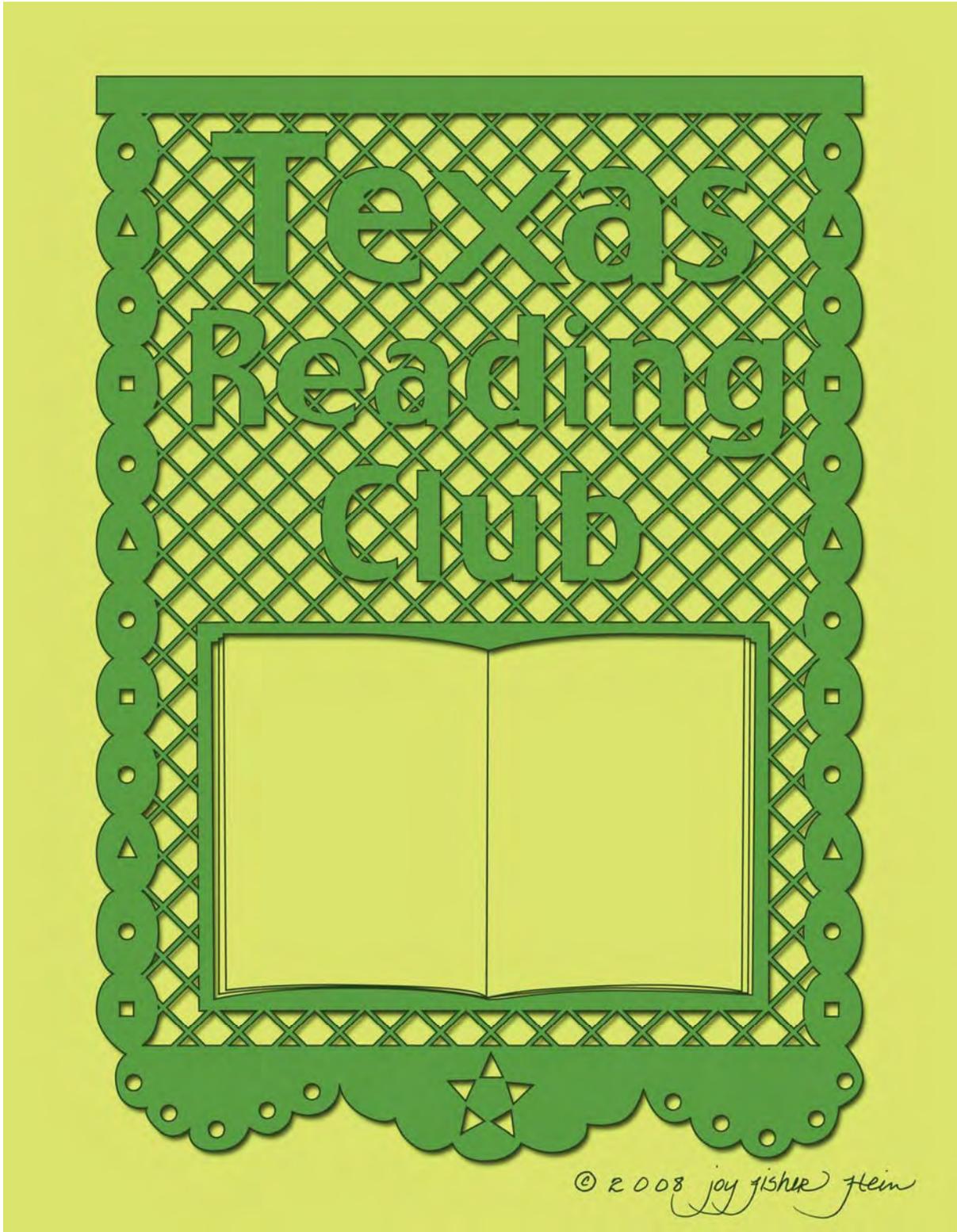


Texas Nature Negative



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Butterfly (from 2009 TRC Poster)



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Hummingbird (from 2009 TRC Poster)



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