**THE LONE STAR REPUBLIC**

1. Many Spanish expeditions visited the region which is now Texas during the 1500s. some of the explorers were searching for the “Seven Cities of Cibola,” which supposedly contained great wealth in gold. Although no gold was found, Spain claimed Texas and began building a series of missions to help spread Christianity to the Indians. The Spanish set up a government for Texas at San Antonio. But few white settlers were attracted to the region. By the year 1800, only about 7,000 Spaniards lived in Texas. In 1820, an American named Moses Austin asked the Spanish government in San Antonio for permission to bring American settlers into Texas. Spanish officials approved Austin’s plan, but he died before a colony could be started. His son, Stephen Austin, decided to carry out the plan, and led 300 families into Texas. Settlements were made at Washington and Columbus. Stephen Austin laid out the town of Austin, which became the colony’s seat of government.

On the map:

1. Print UNITED STATES in large capital letters in the area north and east of Texas.
2. Print MEXICO in large capital letters in the area south and west of Texas.
3. Next to dot 1, print San Antonio, dot 2 Washington, and dot 3 Columbus. Draw arrows from the United States to Washington and Columbus. Next to the arrows, print, print 1821: Stephen Austin leads the first American settlers into Texas.
4. Next to dot 4, print Austin, seat of Texas government.
5. Just before the first Americans went to Texas, Mexico won its independence from Spain. The new Mexican government welcomed American settlers in hope of developing a thinly populated section of its country. The Mexicans offered large tracts of ladn to people who brought in settlers. Land was priced as low as a penny an acre. This was a real bargain compared with the $1.25 per acre charged by the United States government for land in the West. The low prices quickly attracted thousands of settlers to Texas. Most of the newcomers were southerners who brought their slaves with them. The warm climate and fertile soil were ideal for growing cotton and other cash crops. By 1830, almost 20,000 Americans were living in Texas. Mexico became worried about the flood of immigrants from the United States, and announced an end to further settlement. Relations between the American colonists and the Mexican grew steadily worse. The Americans and Mexicans spoke different language and had different ways of living. They also had their own ideas on government. A law was passed forbidding slavery, but the plantation owners ignored it. Soon after General Santa Anna seized control of the Mexican government, the American colonists decided to rebel.

On the map:

1. Inside of Mexico, print 1821: Mexico wins its independence from Spain and welcomes Americans to Texas.
2. Inside of Mexico, print 1834: Santa Anna makes himself dictator of Mexico.
3. In the northern part of Texas, print 1835: Texas Revolution begins.
4. Troops from Texas attacked San Antonio, forcing the Mexicans there to surrender. When the news of the fall of San Antonio reached Santa Anna, he organized a large army and marched north to recapture the city. A small band of about 200 Texans took up positions inside of the Alamo with an army of about 4,000 men. The Texans, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel William B. Travis, included famous frontiersmen Davy Crockett and Jim Bowie. The greatly outnumbered Americans courageously held off the Mexicans for nearly two weeks before running low on ammunition. Santa Anna’s men then climbed over the mission walls. The Texans used their muskets as clubs and fought on until only six remained alive. These six were taken prisoner, then ordered killed by Santa Anna. Over 1,500 Mexican soldiers lost their lives during the assault on the Alamo.

On the map:

1. The dotted arrows represent Texan troop movements, and the solid arrows show Mexican troop movements during the Texas Revolution. In the map key, trace over the dotted arrow with a colored pencil, markers, pen, or lead pencil. Use the same utensil to color the battle symbol that will represent a Texan victory on the map. Use a second color to trace over the solid arrow on the key, and shade the battle symbol for the Mexicans.
2. Trace **Arrow 1** to show the Texan advance on San Antonio (use the same pencil as the key). Shade the battle symbol to a Texan victory, and print Dec. 1835 next to it.
3. Using the second color in the key, trace **Arrow 2** from Mexico to San Antonio, and print Santa Anna next to it. Color the battle symbol to show the Mexican victory at the Alamo. Print March 1836: The Alamo.
4. A few days before the Alamo fell to Santa Anna and the Mexican army, the leaders of Texas met in the town of Washington. They drew up a declaration of independence announcing that Texas would no longer by governed by Mexico. A temporary president was chosen, and Sam Houston was made commander of the army. Four days later, the Alamo was captured by the Mexicans. Santa Anna hoped to quickly end the revolution. He ordered nearly 400 Texan prisoners shot to death at Goliad. But the Texans continued to fight, inspired by the battle cries “Remember the Alamo” and “Remember Goliad.” General Sam Houston and his outnumbered army moved into eastern Texas, followed by Santa Anna. At San Jacinto, Houston launched a surprise attack on the Mexicans as they took an afternoon siesta. The Texans won a great victory, and the war came to an end. The independence of Texas was assured.

On the map:

1. Next to the town of Washington, print March 1836: Texas leaders issue declaration of independence.
2. Next to **dot 5**, print March 1836: Texas prisoners killed at Goliad.
3. Trace **Arrow 3** to San Jacinto, and put Sam Houston alongside of it. Nearby, print “Remember the Alamo/Remember Goliad.”
4. Trace **Arrow 4** to San Jacinto, and put Santa Anna next to it.
5. Color the battle symbol to show a Texan victory. Print April 1836: Texas Revolution ends at the Battle of San Jacinto.
6. When Texas gained its independence from Mexico, it asked Congress to be admitted to the Union as a state. The northern states opposed this request because many slave owners lived in Texas. But the southern states, which used slave labor on their plantations, favored the admission of Texas to the Union. Some people in the United States feared that the annexation of Texas might lead to a war with Mexico. When Congress turned down the application for statehood, Texas remained an independent country. It was known as the “Lone Star Republic” because its flag had just one star. Sam Houston was elected president of the new nation. The Lone Star Republic existed as a separate country from 1836 to 1845. After a long and heated debate in Congress, Texas was finally admitted to the Union as the 28th state. This angered Mexico, which still considered Texas to be its territory. Soon, a dispute arose over the boundary between northern Mexico and southern Texas. This dispute led to the outbreak of the Mexican War in 1846.

On the Map:

1. Put the following dates and events in the box:

1836: Texas gains its independence from Mexico, and becomes the Lone

Star Republic. Sam Houston is elected president.

1836: Congress turns down Texas’ request to be admitted to the Union.

1845: Congress decides to let Texas become the 28th state.

1846: The Mexican War begins.

1. Inside the territory marked “DISPUTED AREA,” print Claimed by the United States and Mexico. Lightly shade this area.

