

Texas History Concentration

Grades

- K-12

Brief Description

Adapt the game of Concentration to learning about Texas History.

Materials Needed

- White craft paper
- Large sticky notes or construction paper cut-outs with tape
- Prizes (optional)

Before the Lesson

Download and print the Clue and Answer cards. Randomly place the cards in rows on a bulletin board. Place a large sticky note on top of each card and number them from 1 to 30 with a large black Marks-A-Lot. (Or cover with a piece of paper cut-to-fit and hinge at the top with masking tape.)

Write the name of each student on a Popsicle stick and place the sticks in a hat or can.

Start the game by pulling a Popsicle stick out of the hat and calling on that student. (Note: After choosing, place the stick *back in the hat or can* so that the student just called on is still in the game. Otherwise they have no incentive to pay attention and you will lose them.) You want *all* students focused on the game.

The play continues in this way:

- The student calls out a number.
- Lift the sticky note with that number on it to reveal a question or an answer.
- If a question is under that sticky note, students call out another number under which they hope to find the matching answer; if the number they call out reveals an answer underneath, students call out another number under which they hope to find the matching question.
- If the cards under the two numbers reveal a *matching* question and answer, then the student earns 1 point. If the cards do not match, the sticky note with the number on it is returned to its spot and all students do their best to recall what question or answer was revealed under each number so when they're called on, they will be able to make a match.

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Tips

- You might leave the Concentration board as a permanent fixture in your classroom. You could change the theme and the game cards every week or two so that students can play during rainy day recesses or at other times.
- You could even add a job to your classroom jobs list. The person who has the "Concentration board" job might move some of the cards around each day and be responsible for putting up new game cards whenever you produce a new game related to a new skill.
- Store each edition of the game cards in an envelope labeled with the skill the game teaches. Keep them all in a "Concentration" file so you can use them from year to year, or repost an old game from time to time.
- Let a different student serve as emcee each time the game is played. That student can select Popsicle sticks to determine which student's turn it is, and reveal the questions and answers.

Adapted from Education World as submitted by Gary Hopkins.

Texas
Independence
Day

Dictator

Knife
Fighter

“I will never
surrender or
retreat!
Victory or Death!”

Tejano signer of
the Texas
Declaration of
Independence

Leader of Tejano
troops who fought
with Sam
Houston against
the Mexican Army

Gift from the
people of
Cincinnati, Ohio

The Father of
Texas

East Texas tribe
of Indians
associated with
Sam Houston

Mexico gave up
Texas with this

Houston's
Secretary of War
and fellow U.S.
Senator from
Texas

Sam Houston's
Cherokee name

The ones who
organized the
colonization of
Texas

The place Sam
Houston thought
should be
abandoned, not
defended

Massacred at
Goliad by the
Mexicans

San Jacinto Day

March 2nd

Santa Anna

Jim Bowie

William Barrett
Travis

Jose Antonio
Navarro

Juan Seguin

Twin Sisters

Stephen F. Austin

Cherokee

Treaty of Velasco

Thomas J. Rusk

The Raven

Empressarios

The Alamo

Col. James
Fannin and all
400 of his men

April 21st