

# 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