

4th Grade Social Studies
PISD Curriculum: Year at a Glance

Bundle	Title Big Ideas/Enduring Understandings	Guiding Questions
1	<p><i>Texas Customs / Texas Geography: Map Skills</i> Geography tools help us find and understand location and place. Communities, like states, have songs and pledges which bring people together.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ When would we use a primary source? A secondary source? ▪ How do different geographic tools help me know more about places? ▪ How can a state song and a state pledge bring us together?
2	<p><i>Texas Regions / Constitution Day</i> Physical geography greatly influences how people develop a place. People adapt to or modify their environments to meet their needs. The signing of the U.S. Constitution created a democracy based on rule by the people.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How have the physical characteristics of the different regions of Texas helped to create the current patterns of settlement in Texas? ▪ How are regions in Texas similar to regions in the U.S. and around the world? ▪ How does the U.S. Constitution make sure that the people control the government?
3	<p><i>Native Americans</i> Different groups and communities make different decisions about their way of life based on our culture helps us to know how to behave in a certain situation, including what and how to eat, what to wear, how to show respect, how to meet our basic needs, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How does the region in which a person lives influence the way they meet their needs? ▪ How do people change themselves to adapt to their region? ▪ How do people change their environment so that it will better meet their needs? ▪ How have the cultures from different groups in Texas in the past influenced cultures today?
4	<p><i>European Exploration</i> European explorers came to Texas to convert American Indians to Christianity and to gain fame and riches for themselves and their countries.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Why did different European explorers come to Texas? ▪ How were their experiences in Texas similar and different? ▪ What were the accomplishments and effects of the different explorations? ▪ What kind of personalities and characteristics do explorers share and need?
5	<p><i>From Spanish Settlements to Austin's Colony</i> People settled in Texas for different reasons, but their work and their cultures continue to influence Texas today.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Why did the Spanish build missions in Texas? ▪ How did the Spanish missions affect the American Indians? ▪ What was it like to live in a mission? ▪ Why did the Spanish government want people from the U.S. to settle in Texas? ▪ How did Mexican independence affect Texas? ▪ What were the causes and effects of Austin's colony?
6	<p><i>Conflict and Colonization / Texan Cultures</i> People from Mexico, the United States, and Europe colonized Texas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Geographically, where did colonists choose to settle? Why? ▪ Why did big cities develop where they did? ▪ Economically, what possibilities did Texas hold for

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	and brought with them rich and varied cultures.	settlers? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What was it like to live as a settler in Texas? ▪ Would you have wanted to be an empresario?
7	<i>Texas Revolution</i> Texas colonists decided that declaring independence was their only choice to be able to live as they wanted, but then they had to fight a revolution to get Mexico to recognize their independence.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What were the conflicts that led to the Texas Revolution? ▪ What were the effects of some of the early battles of the Texas Revolution? ▪ Did Texans have to declare independence? ▪ What were the purposes and effects of the Texas Declaration of Independence and the Texas Constitution?
8	<i>From Republic to Statehood</i> Before becoming a state, the Republic of Texas faced numerous issues which its leaders tried to solve in different ways.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How were Lamar and Houston similar and different? ▪ What were the biggest problems facing the Republic of Texas? ▪ How did the government try to solve those problems? ▪ Why did Texas decide to become a state? ▪ How did the Mexican War affect Texas? Mexico? The United States?
9	<i>Texas and the Civil War, Reconstruction, and Government</i> The Civil War and Reconstruction brought enormous social, economic, and political changes to Texas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Why did Texas join the Confederacy? ▪ What were the effects of that decision? ▪ How did the end of slavery affect the lives of individual Texans? ▪ How did Reconstruction change Texas?
10	<i>Economic and Social Changes from Reconstruction to Today</i> The cattle and oil industries, along with the railroad and barbed wire, developed economic opportunities and a unique culture in Texas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What are the similarities between the growth of cattle and the oil industries? ▪ Who benefited from the growth of cattle and oil industries? ▪ How did railroads and barbed wire affect people and industries in Texas?
11	<i>The Latter 20th Century / Free Enterprise in Texas</i> The free enterprise system has many benefits for both producers and consumers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What are the characteristics and benefits of the free enterprise system in Texas? ▪ What are specialized jobs in Texas and how do they depend on each other? ▪ How are Texas, the United States, and other parts of the world interdependent?
12	<i>Texas – Its Culture, Celebrations, and Notable People</i> Texans are proud people with different cultures and a common heritage. We each have something to contribute to Texas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How have immigrants influenced the economic and cultural development of Texas? ▪ How can understanding different cultures help you understand yourself and your own culture? ▪ What have different Texans contributed to Texas? ▪ What do we learn about ourselves when learning about notable people?