

Summary

For more information on the Caddo Nation see the narrative in the Resources section.

This activity uses a primary source document of an early 18th century map of Texas which labels Native Tribes, bodies of water, roads, boundaries, towns and villages.

The printed map will be rather dark because the original is 200 years old! The Tribe names are clear. The outlines of rivers are included but not labeled. The rivers are hard to see but that is part of dealing with old, primary source documents. This may be difficult, but the reward is great! Students should take some time to examine the map and ask questions before beginning. A full-size map is included for individual student use. The map analysis worksheet will help identify important features and add to the understanding of the project.



Student Activity

Have students carefully look at the map and notice the details. Add the following to the map. Use the Map analysis worksheet as a guide and find basic elements of the map.

- Locate and mark the Red River.
- Locate and mark the three branches of the Trinity River
- Locate and mark the Sabine River
- Add Caddo Mounds State Historic Site on the map near Alto, Texas
- Add Caddo Lake State Park-east of Longview, Texas

SOURCES

- Map of Texas and adjacent regions 18th century¹ – Available in PDF form
- Map Analysis Worksheet

DURATION

- 40-50 minutes

SUPPLIES

- Colored pencils or fine tipped markers
- Pen or pencil

* Map credit: Bolton, Herbert E. Map of Texas and Adjacent Regions in the Eighteenth Century, map, 1915; (<https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph492871/>; accessed July 8, 2025), University of North Texas Libraries, The Portal to Texas History, <https://texashistory.unt.edu>; crediting Hardin-Simmons University Library.

1. Type of Map (check one)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Raised relief | <input type="checkbox"/> Bird's eye view |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Topographic | <input type="checkbox"/> Artifact map |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Satellite |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contour-line | <input type="checkbox"/> photograph |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Natural resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Pictograph |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Weather |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

2. Physical Qualities of the Map

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Compass | <input type="checkbox"/> Title |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Handwritten | <input type="checkbox"/> Legend |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Date | <input type="checkbox"/> Key |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notations | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scale | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Name of
mapmaker | |

3. Date of Map: _____

4. Creator of Map: _____

5. Title: _____

6. Where was the map produced? _____

7. Map Information

A. List three things in this map that you think are important:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

8. Why do you think the map was drawn?

9. What evidence in the map suggests why it was drawn?

10. The Caddo and Hasinai People lived in North Texas for centuries. They farmed, hunted and had permanent homes. Identify three geographic elements that would make this location ideal.

11. The Caddo lived close to rivers. What is the importance of living close to a source of water?

TEKS

SOCIAL STUDIES

Sixth Grade – 113.18 (c)

- (1) (A,B) History-influence, events
- (2) (A,B) History-influence, culture
- (3) (A,C) Geography, factors and landforms
- (4) (A,B) Geography, economic and political development
- (13) (A-D) Culture-differences
- (14) (A-C) Culture-basic institutions
- (15) (A-D) Culture-trade
- (19) (A,E) Social Studies skills-primary documents
- (20) (A-C) Social Studies skills-Geographic tools, maps
- (21) (A-D) Social Studies skills-communication

Seventh Grade – 113.19 (c)

- (1) (A) History-Natural Texas and its people
- (2) (A) History-Native culture
- (6) (A) History-westward expansion on native peoples
- (8) (B,C) Geography-Locate historic landmarks
- (18) (B) Culture-cultural groups
- (20) (A,D,E,F)) Social Studies skills-Primary document critical thinking, bias, points of view, communicate, variety of sources
- (21) (A,B) Social Studies skills-geographic tools

Eighth Grade – 113.20 (c)

- (2) (A) History-exploration
- (6) (B) History-Westward growth, Manifest Destiny
- (10) (A-C) Geography-Effects of geographic factors historic events
- (23) (A) Culture
- (29) (A-H) Social Studies skills

