

The State Fair of
TEXAS
Curriculum

FAIR FOOD
GRADE 7 SOCIAL STUDIES

FAIR FARE

THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CULINARY ARTISTS



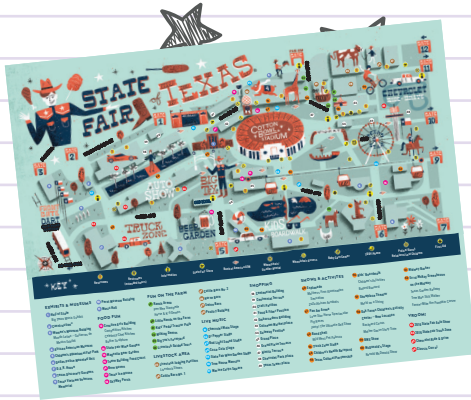


Fair Fare

The Contributions of Culinary Artists

Recap

- ★ Recall that food in a society is often influenced by many different cultures.
- ★ Review these links again to learn more about Fair Food and its history:
 - * [A Brief History of Fair Fare.](#)
 - * [These Are the Craziest Fried Foods at the Texas State Fair.](#)
 - * [The History of Texas Cuisine.](#)
- ★ Explore the [Big Tex Choice Awards website](#) to review prize categories, past contest winners, and details about finalists.



While You're There

You will use information you gather at the State Fair to help you with up to TWO project goals:

1. Write a blog summarizing your experiences at the State Fair.
2. Create a State Fair food for the upcoming year.

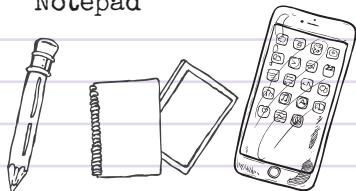
You'll work on those projects back at school; for now, the objective of your visit is to gather information about cultures that have influenced Texas State Fair foods, and identify contributions made to the culinary arts.

Plan Your Route.

- ★ Food stands are scattered throughout the State Fair of Texas.
- ★ Make your way through the fairgrounds observing the different foods available.

Optional Materials to Bring

- ★ Smart Phone or Tablet
- ★ Pencil & Notepad



INVESTIGATING FAIR FOOD

- As you walk through the Fairgrounds, stop at multiple food vendors and observe the types of foods offered by the concessionaires.
- Stop at a minimum of three vendors and purchase a variety of fair foods.
- Think about the various cultures that may have influenced the creation of the items you purchased.
- Pay attention to the purchases made by fellow fairgoers. Are certain items more popular than others? Why?
- Collect information about foods submitted to the Big Tex Choice Awards by interviewing vendors about their products.

- Ask them to explain the process of creating the foods.
- Inquire about the Big Tex Choice Awards, and consider the food categories for the items you've chosen.
- Poll other fairgoers about the food items they think deserve to win. You can use the [Flisti website](#) to create a poll.
- Jot down a few notes about your experiences.
- Make a list of all the foods you sampled.
- Describe how other countries may have influenced their creation.
- Take photographs of the foods before eating them, and write captions.



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DIGEST

- ★ Find a place to sit, so you can think and observe.
- Does the way the food looks impact the way it tastes?
- How do culinary arts impact culture?
- Should a food win if it doesn't look appetizing but tastes delicious?
- Should there be a category in the Big Tex Choice Awards for "Most Culturally Influential Food"? Why or why not?
- Why doesn't everyone consider chefs to be artists?

Back at School

When you return to class following your State Fair visit, you will work on your projects! See your teachers for more information.

