

THE MIDWAY & GAMES GRADE 4 SOCIAL STUDIES

DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS
THE TEXAS STAR ILLUMINATED



STUDENT EDITION





Deep in the Heart of Texas The Texas Star Illuminated

Suggestion: Try to do this activity at night, for the best experience!



Recap

- ★ Listen to the song, "Deep in the Heart of Texas" again and remember how you analyzed the lyrics in class.
- ★ Recall the definitions of the terms "primary" source and
 "secondary" source. Then click here to access the secondary
 source article to learn more about the Texas State Quarter:

 Lone Star Article.
- ★ Brush up on a few facts about the Texas Star Ferris Wheel!



- ★ Make your way into the Fair and head over to the Midway.
- ★ You will see the illuminated Texas Star in the distance at the far south end of the Midway.











Optional Materials to Bring

- * Smart Phone or Tablet
- * Pencil, Notepad & Sketchbook
- * Sketchbook for Arts Connection





"Texas Star Spinning at the Texas State Fair 2007" by Terry Shuck from Garland, Texas, USA - Texas Star Spinning. Licensed under CC BY 2.0 via Wikimedia Commons - https://goo.gl/ttAKkg

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While You're There

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

- 1. Write a letter to a relative or friend in another state explaining how the Lone Star represents the identity of Texas citizens.
- 2. Redesign the look of the Texas Star!

You will work on those projects when you get back to school. For now, the objective of your visit is to enjoy a memorable ride on a world famous historical landmark, and take some notes!

- Get a birds-eye view of the fair grounds 20 stories
- above the Earth. Purchase the required number of tickets, go to the line for the Texas Star, load the gondola, and begin your 12-minute ride.
- See how many stars you can count as you reach the top!
- Take a photograph with a digital camera or smartphone.

DOWN BELOW

- * Ponder the following questions as you observe and
 - What does the Lone Star of explore:

 - How do cultural experiences, like visiting the State Fair, impact your sense of patriotism? (In other words, do you feel more patriotic when you visit places like the State Fair?) If yes, why do you think so?
 - Why are symbols and landmarks important to citizens of a state or
 - Do you think you could count more stars in rural areas, or urban areas? Why?
 - How does a birds-eye view change your perspective?

DESIGN DETAILS

- Pay close attention to the details of the Ferris wheel. Think about how you might change this.
- What colors, shapes, and letters do you see? What size are they?
- Would you add more color?
- What about more shapes?
- Should the star be bigger or smaller?
- Is there anything else you notice?





Back at School

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

