The State Fair of
Texas Curriculum

BIG TEX
GRADE 5 SOCIAL STUDIES
CELEBRATING SYMBOLS:
BIG TEX & LADY LIBERTY UNITE
Celebrating Symbols
Big Tex & Lady Liberty Unite

Recap
★ Recall the word “symbol” and the Double Bubble Map you created in class to compare the two icons, Big Tex and Lady Liberty, which are symbols of Texas and America.
★ Review the video of the history of the Statue of Liberty.
★ Review the video of the history of Big Tex.

Plan Your Route.
★ Go directly to Big Tex Circle.

Optional Materials to Bring
★ Smart Phone or Tablet
★ Pencil & Notepad or Sketchbook

Review the video of the history of Big Tex.
Recall the word "symbol" and the Double Bubble Map you created in class to compare the two icons, Big Tex and Lady Liberty, which are symbols of Texas and America.
Review the video of the history of the Statue of Liberty.
Review the video of the history of Big Tex.
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While You’re There
You will use information you gather at the State Fair to help you with up to 3 project goals:
1. Add more details to your Double Bubble Map.
2. Create a MOVIE about the differences between the two statues.
3. Design your own patriotic symbol!

You’ll begin working on those three goals when you get back to school.

For NOW, the objective of your visit is to observe Big Tex, explore patriotic symbols, and question how important landmarks impact citizens. While you are viewing Big Tex, be sure to think about how this famous Texas icon compares to Lady Liberty.

THINGS TO DO
★ Listen closely to the comments made by fellow fairgoers.
- Notice if visitors compare Big Tex to other national or state symbols.
- Snap a photo of Big Tex, and think about a caption you would write that summarizes his size, stature, and character.
My Caption: ______________________________
______________________________
______________________________

★ Compare and contrast your knowledge of the Statue of Liberty to what you observe at the Fair.

AS YOU EXPLORE
★ Ponder the following questions as you observe and explore:
- Why do we build statues to represent our beliefs, cultures, and values?
- Does the size of the landmark matter?
- Why do nations and states build such large structures?
- Is the gender of the symbol significant?
- How does gender impact the connections between the person and the idea the symbol represents?
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Pay attention to all of the features on Big Tex, just as you did with the Statue of Liberty and Big Tex in class. You can use the chart below to help:

Features of Big Tex

Colors I see:

Clothing:

Symbols on his clothing:

What are his hands doing?

Anything else?

Are there things that you notice seeing the statue in real life as opposed to the video? If so, what?

Back at School

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