



A Parent's Guide to Helping Your Child Learn American History

*“And so my fellow Americans:
ask not what your country can do for you—
ask what you can do for your country.”
President John Kennedy, 1961*



Project FLAG



- **Why Study History?**

The study of history opens a window into the past that provides an understanding of the present day. It also allows students to analyze how individuals, nations and the global community might develop in the future.

By learning American history, students will develop the intellectual skills and civic values necessary to participate in a democracy.

Social studies in Texas, kindergarten through the twelfth grade, includes the same nine themes: history, geography, economics, citizenship, culture, government, science and technology, and social studies skills.

The content, as appropriate for grade level or course, enables students to understand the importance of patriotism, function in a free society and appreciate the basic democratic values of our state and nation.

Traditional American history is taught in grades five, eight and eleven.

“...all men are created equal and are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”

Declaration of Independence, 1776

Parents can help their child learn American history by:

- **Developing history habits by sharing family history and stories**
- **Watching the evening news or a television program about a historical event then talking about items of interest**
- **Discussing current events relating them to people or events of the past**
- **Reading the daily newspaper or magazine sharing what you learned**
- **Keeping a U.S. or world map handy so you can locate the stories “in the news”**
- **Visiting museums or historic places**
- **Building your child’s critical thinking skills by asking questions starting with Who, When, Where, How and Why**
- **Discussing with your child what is being studied in history class**
- **Visiting your child’s classroom to see what the teacher is doing to bring history alive**

***“You are never strong enough
that you don't need help.”
Cesar Chevaz***

Parent – Child Resources for Learning History

Amon Carter Museum of Western Art

www.cartermuseum.org

Ft. Worth Independent School Library

www.fortworthisd.org

Ft. Worth Public Library

www.fortworthlibrary.org

Ft. Worth Star Telegram

www.star-telegram.com

Museum of Science and History

www.fwmuseum.org

National Cowgirl Hall of Fame

www.cowgirl.net

Television Stations – PBS

The History Channel

The Biography Channel

Internet Resources

Library of Congress

www.loc.gov

Smithsonian Museum

www.si.edu

Texas Education Agency

www.tea.state.tx.us

***“If there is no struggle, there is no progress.”
Frederick Douglas***

Project FLAG

(Foundation for Learning American History Grant)
is a three year grant
from the U.S. Department of Education.
(2002-2005).

Project FLAG Goals:

- Increasing teacher knowledge of American History
- Increasing the variety of teaching strategies used in the classroom
- Bringing history alive in order to raise student interest and achievement

Project FLAG Activities:

- American History Institute at TCU
- History Alive Training
- Super Saturdays Staff Development
- Saturday TAKS Camps for Students
- Field Trips for Fifth Graders

Access to Partners – Amon Carter Museum

- Ft. Worth Public Library
- *Ft. Worth Star Telegram*
- National Cowgirl Hall of Fame
- Texas Christian University



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Project FLAG Teachers

Is your child enrolled in a Project FLAG classroom?
Eighty-nine fifth, eighth and eleventh grade teachers
are Project FLAG teachers.

High Schools:

Arlington Heights, Carter-Riverside, Dunbar, Metro,
North Side, Paschal, Polytechnic,
South Hills, Southwest, Success,
Tier One Southwest, Western Hills, Wyatt

Middle Schools:

Daggett, Dunbar, Elder, Handley, Horizons,
Kirkpatrick, McLean, Meacham, Meadowbrook,
Monnig, Morningside, Rosemont, Stripling,
Wedgwood

Elementary Schools:

Alice Carlson, Como, Clifford Davis,
East Handley, Glen Park, Helbing, Hubbard, Jara,
Kirkpatrick, Logan, Mendoza, Merrett, Moss, Oakhurst,
Oaklawn, Pate, Riverside, Sagamore, Shulkey, Sims,
Stevens, Turner, Western Hills, Williams

***“...that government of the people,
by the people, and for the people
shall not perish from the earth.”***

**President *Abraham Lincoln*
1863**