

# LESSON 23

## TEXAS ALMANAC TEACHERS GUIDE

### Counties and County Seats

- *History*
- *Courthouses*
- *Statistics*

#### INSTRUCTIONAL SUGGESTIONS

**1. COUNTY RESEARCH PROJECT:** Each student will be assigned a separate Texas county to research. This research should include:

- **founding of the county**
- **for whom or what was the county named**
- **the county seat**
- **the building of the county courthouse(s)**
- **recent statistical data**

The research will begin in the Texas Almanac with the entry for the specific county. The research also should include information contained on the following Internet websites:

Handbook of Texas Online: <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online>

Texas Courthouse Trail: <http://www.texascourhousetrail.com/menu.htm>

Texas Courthouses: [http://www.texasescapes.com/Texas\\_architecture/TexasCourthouses.htm](http://www.texasescapes.com/Texas_architecture/TexasCourthouses.htm)

**2. COUNTY SEAT DATA SHEET:** Students should use the **County and County Seat Data Sheet** as a guide as they research and collect information on their assigned county.

This form may be used as the final product, or the students may use this information to create written or computer-generated presentations.

Encourage students to collect **pictures of the courthouses** for the county. To generate interest and to encourage comparisons, the teacher may wish to display a poster of all 254 courthouses, available through TAMU

Press at:

<http://www.tamupress.com/product/Texas-Courthouse-Poster,61.aspx>

*The Lee County Courthouse in Giddings.  
Ron Billings photo; Texas A&M Forest Service.*

#### SOCIAL STUDIES TEKS

4 - 6, 7, 8, 12, 21, 22, 23

7 - 8, 9, 12, 21, 22, 23

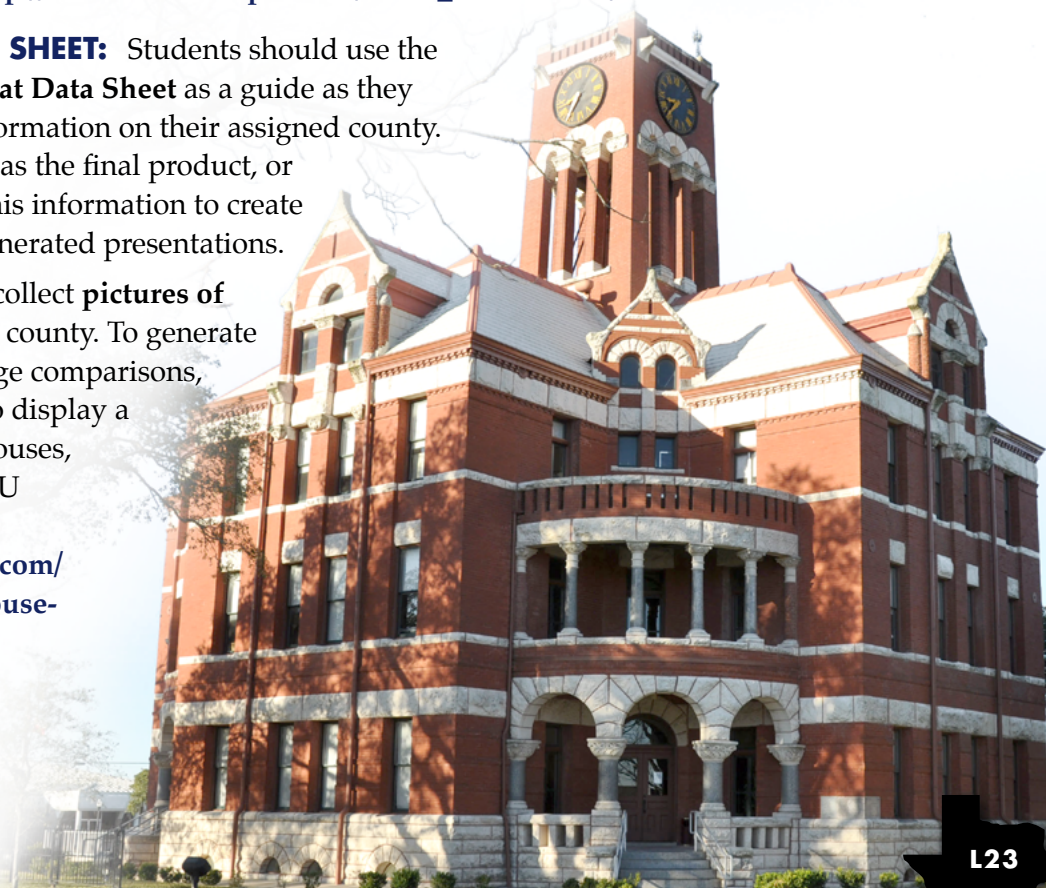
8 - 10, 12, 29, 30

#### STAAR

4, 7 - Writing - 1, 2, 3

4, 7, 8 - Reading - 1, 2, 3

8 - Social Studies - 2, 4



## Lesson 23 – Counties and County Seats

### STUDENT ACTIVITY

# County and County Seat Data Sheet

County name: \_\_\_\_\_

The county was named for: \_\_\_\_\_

Significance of county name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Estimated county population today: \_\_\_\_\_ Population change since 2000: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical features: \_\_\_\_\_

County seat: \_\_\_\_\_

Population of county seat: \_\_\_\_\_

The county seat was named for: \_\_\_\_\_

County land area: \_\_\_\_\_ square miles Average property value: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual: Births: \_\_\_\_\_ Deaths: \_\_\_\_\_ Marriages: \_\_\_\_\_ Divorces: \_\_\_\_\_

Ethnicity percentages: \_\_\_\_\_

Industries, agriculture, other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Median household income \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Per capita money income \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Persons below poverty level \_\_\_\_\_% Retail sales per capita: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

How many courthouses have been built in the county? \_\_\_\_\_

Date the present courthouse was built: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of county courthouse(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other notes: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

