

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

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

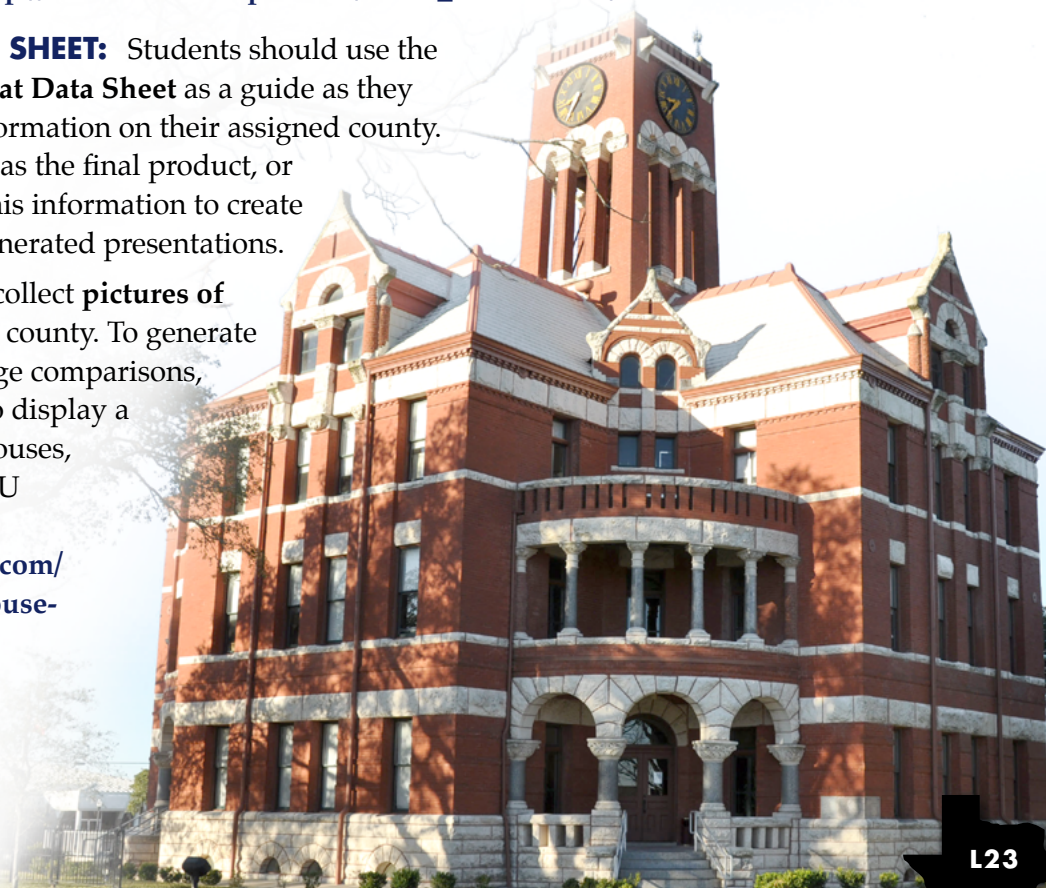
8 - 10, 12, 29, 30

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: _____

