

# SPECIAL LESSON 2

## TEXAS ALMANAC TEACHERS GUIDE

### Ranching in Texas

- *From the Texas Almanac 2006–2007*

#### SOCIAL STUDIES TEKS

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

7 - 6, 8, 21, 22, 23

8 - 29, 30

#### STAAR

4, 7 - Writing - 1, 2, 3

4, 7, 8 - Reading - 2, 3

#### INSTRUCTIONAL SUGGESTIONS

- 1. CATTLE BRANDS:** The teacher will discuss the **history of cattle brands** and demonstrate **designing** and **reading** the brands. For more information see:

<http://www.tscrabrand.com/design-brand.html>

<http://www.cowboyshowcase.com/brands.htm>

<http://www.sloanbrands.com/history.htm>

<http://www.angelos-steakpit.com/famous-brands.html>

Students will complete “Cattle Brands — The Cowboy’s Mark” **Student Activity Sheet**. Then, they can **create their own brand** and draw it on the “Beef Cattle” **Student Activity Sheet**.

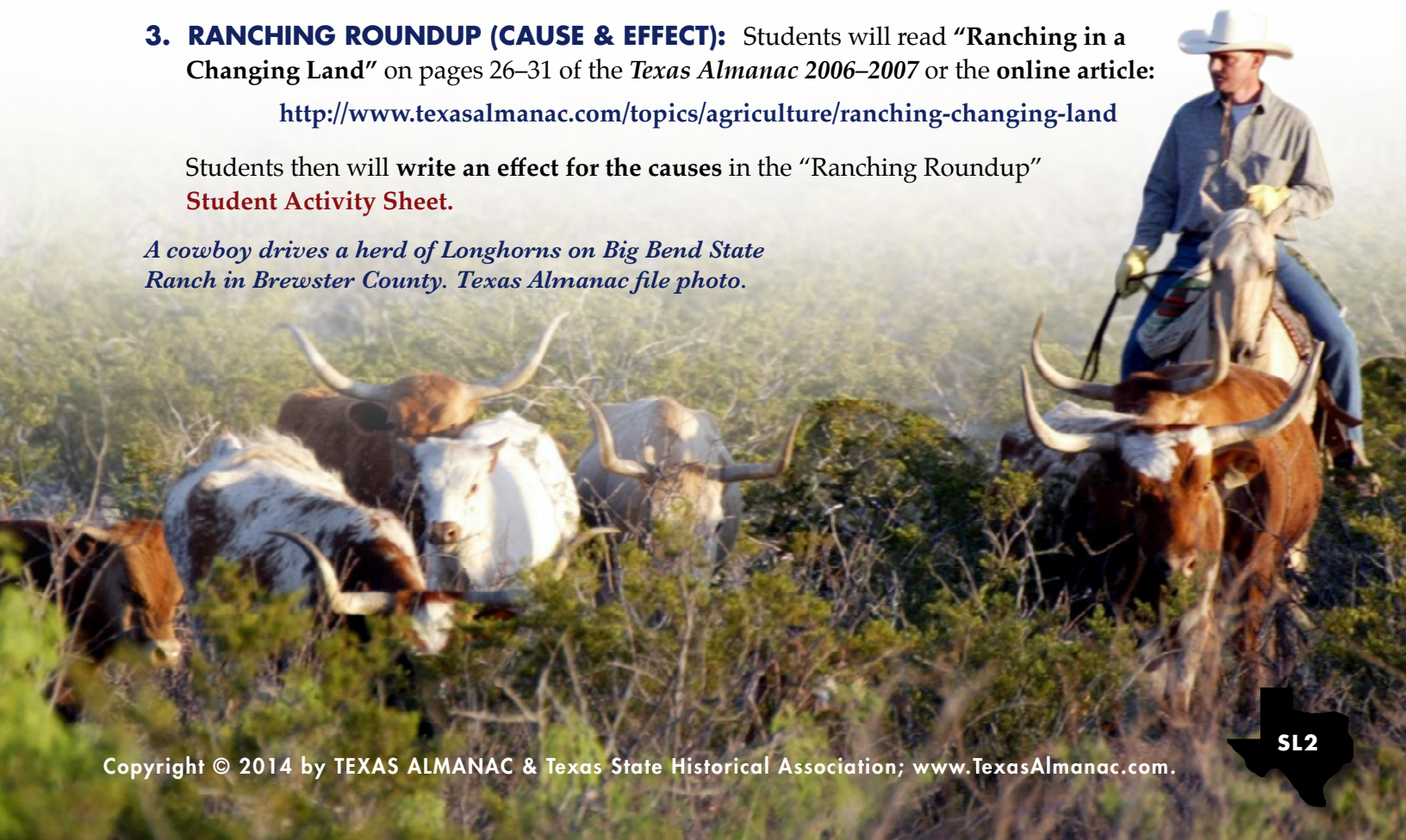
- 2. CATTLE RANCH PRESENTATION:** Students will select and **conduct research** on a large Texas cattle ranch or an important rancher. They will **create a presentation** for the class, including maps and illustrations.

- 3. RANCHING ROUNDUP (CAUSE & EFFECT):** Students will read “Ranching in a Changing Land” on pages 26–31 of the *Texas Almanac 2006–2007* or the **online article**:

<http://www.texasalmanac.com/topics/agriculture/ranching-changing-land>

Students then will **write an effect for the causes** in the “Ranching Roundup” **Student Activity Sheet**.

*A cowboy drives a herd of Longhorns on Big Bend State Ranch in Brewster County. Texas Almanac file photo.*



## Special Lesson 2 – Ranching in Texas

### STUDENT ACTIVITY

# Cattle Brands – The Cowboy's Mark

A brand showed ownership of cattle. Cattlemen were proud of their brands and often named their ranches after their brands. The history of brands goes back to the early Egyptians who are shown in tomb paintings branding their spotted cattle. Hernán Cortés branded the cattle he brought from Spain. Stephen F. Austin used a Spanish brand. Texas cowhands followed three basic rules in reading a brand correctly:

A JA

**Rule #1** Left to Right



Diamond Bar

**Rule #2** Top to Bottom



Circle Dot

**Rule #3** Outside to Inside

### Examples of the Cowboy Alphabet

W Running W

B Crazy R

R Lazy R

R Rocking R

R Flying R

— Bar

— Rail

/ Slash

⤿ Half circle

○ Circle

### See if you can name these brands:



1. \_\_\_\_\_



2. \_\_\_\_\_



3. \_\_\_\_\_



4. \_\_\_\_\_



5. \_\_\_\_\_



6. \_\_\_\_\_



7. \_\_\_\_\_



8. \_\_\_\_\_



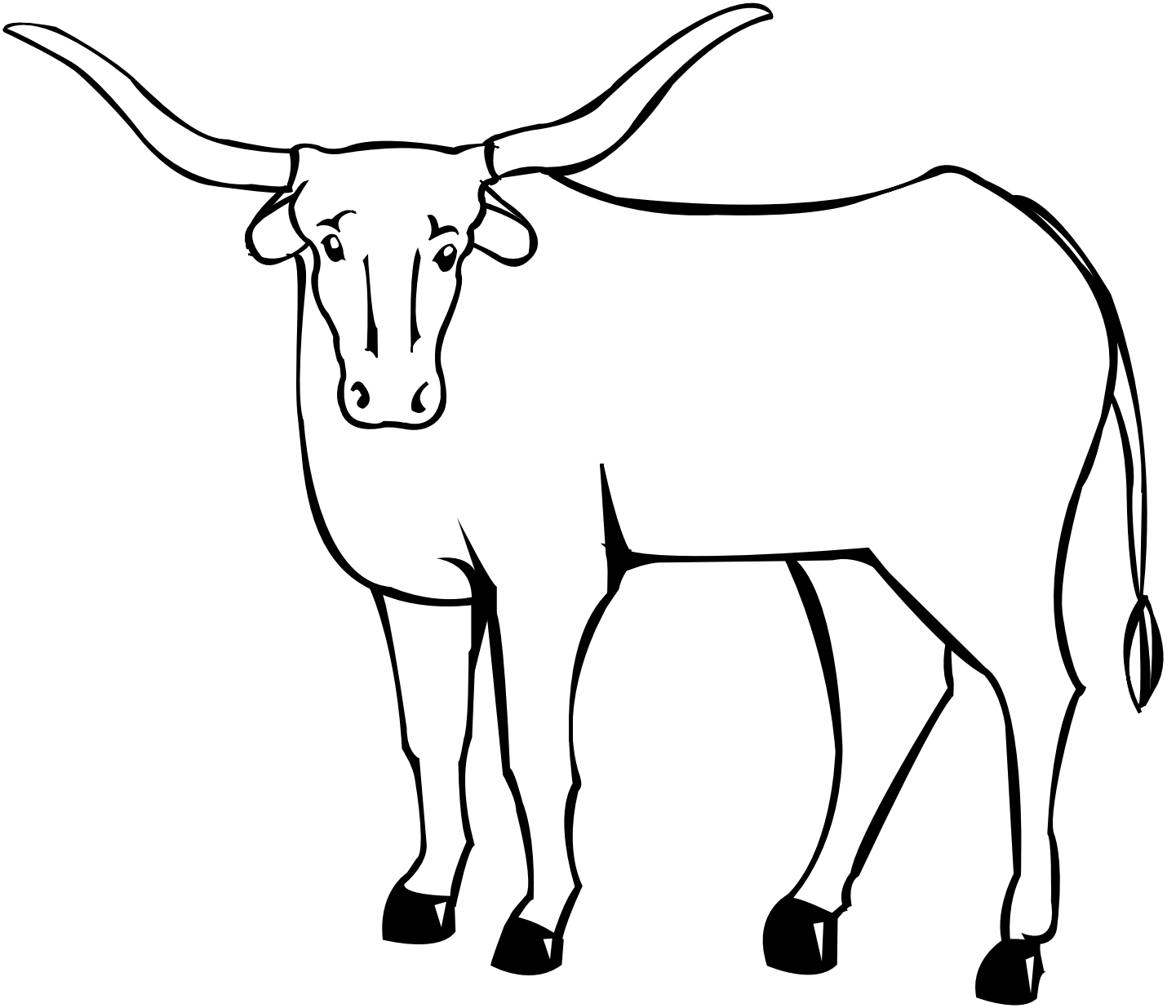
9. \_\_\_\_\_



10. \_\_\_\_\_

## Cattle Brands – The Cowboy's Mark

*Create your own cattle brand and draw it on this Texas longhorn.*



## Special Lesson 2 – Ranching in Texas

### STUDENT ACTIVITY

# Ranching Roundup

Use pages 26–31 of the *Texas Almanac 2006–2007* to write an EFFECT for the CAUSES listed below. The article is also online at:

<http://www.texasalmanac.com/topics/agriculture/ranching-changing-land>

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <b>CAUSE:</b> The Catholic missions were established.<br><b>EFFECT:</b> _____<br>_____<br>_____  | 7. <b>CAUSE:</b> The ranchmen began seeing the need to own their grazing land.<br><b>EFFECT:</b> _____<br>_____<br>_____  |
| 2. <b>CAUSE:</b> Many of the missions were abandoned because of hostile Indians.<br><b>EFFECT:</b> _____<br>_____<br>_____  | 8. <b>CAUSE:</b> Windmills were used to produce water from underground.<br><b>EFFECT:</b> _____<br>_____<br>_____   |
| 3. <b>CAUSE:</b> The Old Three Hundred were primarily farmers.<br><b>EFFECT:</b> _____<br>_____<br>_____  | 9. <b>CAUSE:</b> Mesquite, cedar, and other invading plants consumed horrendous amounts of water, as well as displaced the original vegetation.<br><b>EFFECT:</b> _____<br>_____<br>_____ |
| 4. <b>CAUSE:</b> Texas was too far from markets in the eastern United States.<br><b>EFFECT:</b> _____<br>_____<br>_____   | 10. <b>CAUSE:</b> The screwworm was eradicated.<br><b>EFFECT:</b> _____<br>_____<br>_____   |
| 5. <b>CAUSE:</b> After the Civil War, Texas was financially drained and cattle were worth more money in the North and East.<br><b>EFFECT:</b> _____<br>_____<br>_____ | 11. <b>CAUSE:</b> Exotic animals have been introduced over much of the Hill Country.<br><b>EFFECT:</b> _____<br>_____<br>_____  |
| 6. <b>CAUSE:</b> At the northern markets, the best prices for cattle were earned by the first herds to arrive.<br><b>EFFECT:</b> _____<br>_____<br>_____              | 12. <b>CAUSE:</b> Irrigation and municipal pumping have increased.<br><b>EFFECT:</b> _____<br>_____<br>_____  |