

The Texas Revolution

Lesson 2

Battles Leading up to the Alamo: Gonzales and Goliad

Big idea of chapter:

The people involved in the Texas Revolution: What were they fighting for? Was their cause just?

Main idea of lesson:

The importance of the battles of Gonzales and Goliad in the Texas Revolution

TEKS:

7.3A-Explain the roles played by significant individuals during the Texas Revolution

7.3B-Explain the issues surrounding significant events in the Texas Revolution

7.21B-Analyze information by identifying cause-and-effect relationships and comparing and contrasting

Purpose

1. Students will learn about the importance of two battles in propelling the Texas Revolution.
2. Students will learn the following vocabulary: *artillery, conflict, reinforcements, siege*.

Materials

- Student notebooks
- Overhead projector and transparency markers
- Timer to signify the end of partner work

Overview

Time: 4 minutes

Grouping: Whole class

Yesterday we discussed some of the governmental changes in Mexico in the early 1830s and how they contributed to the beginning of the Texas Revolution. General Santa Anna did away with the Constitution of 1824, which gave limited power to the central government and local authority to the states. Turmoil soon followed because American settlers were unhappy with the Mexican government's demands. Can you recall what some of the causes for unrest were? What were some of the laws the Mexican government enacted in order to tighten control over what is present-day Texas?

Today we will be talking about the start of the Texas Revolution, which began with two specific battles—Gonzales and Goliad. Remember to ask yourself daily: Who are the people fighting in this war and what are they fighting for?

Vocabulary/Proper Noun Instruction

Time: 10 minutes

Grouping: Pairs and whole group

Teach vocabulary: *artillery, conflict, reinforcements, siege.*

Teacher-led Reading

“Gonzales and Goliad”

Time: 15 minutes

Grouping: Pairs and whole group

Materials: “Gonzales and Goliad” passage(s)

Transparency: Questions

1. State the big idea of the reading.
2. Preview the reading by asking questions to help activate background knowledge and guide students’ thinking about what they will learn.
3. Model thinking aloud as you read in order to make sense of text.
4. As you read, demonstrate for students how to generate different types of questions, while allowing them to respond to these questions.
5. After reading, begin discussion by focusing on the suggested question(s) below to help students center on big ideas in the selection.

For each of the battles (Gonzales and Goliad):

How did the actions of the groups involved push forward the revolution?

How did this battle help or hurt the groups of people (Texas settlers and Mexican government) fighting?

Wrap-up

Time: 10 minutes

Grouping: Pairs and whole group

Materials: Notebooks

1. Introduce the activity.

Today we have read about and discussed two battles in the Texas Revolution. Our main focus is the different people involved in this

war and their reasons for fighting. Today, I have posted a graphic organizer that we will contribute to daily while we cover this topic. With your partner, you will discuss the people you read about today and how their actions pushed forward the revolution. You have a few minutes to share your ideas in your pairs and to jot down some notes. We will discuss this as a whole group before today's dismissal, and you may be called on to contribute to our class-made graphic organizer.

2. Students contribute their answers in a whole-class discussion and are called on to write some of their answers on the graphic organizer posted in class.

Vocabulary

Word	Meaning	Synonym

Comprehension

Big idea of lesson:	
Key People:	
Key Places:	
Key Events:	
Big Questions:	1.
	2.

Wrap-up Activity

conflict **(conflicto)**

A serious, long-lasting disagreement or argument



Synonyms: disagreement, dispute

The **conflict** between the Texas settlers and the Mexican government caused several wars.

A **conflict** between the football coach and the referee led to a fight between the two schools.

Turn and Talk

- What might have caused the conflict between the coach and the referee?
- How is a conflict different from or similar to a revolt?

Quiz 2: The Texas Revolution 2

Match each definition on the left with the sentence that uses the corresponding vocabulary word on the right. Not all sentences will be used.

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| <p>___ 1. To move out or leave a place with no intention of returning.</p> <p>___ 2. To prepare for something difficult or unpleasant.</p> <p>___ 3. Total agreement on something.</p> <p>___ 4. Mass killing (execution) of people within a short time.</p> <p>___ 5. To attract something or someone.</p> <p>___ 6. People killed, wounded, captured, or missing.</p> <p>___ 7. A movement in which Texas settlers deserted their farms, homes, and towns to avoid the advancing Mexican forces led by Santa Anna.</p> <p>___ 8. To attack continuously with missiles, weapons, etc.</p> <p>___ 9. A formal meeting to discuss and decide on issues of common concern.</p> <p>___ 10. To promise to do something.</p> | <p>a. The Texan army was unprepared for the advance by the Mexican troops.</p> <p>b. The Texans suffered more casualties in the Battle of the Alamo than the Mexicans.</p> <p>c. The controversial issue of whether to make Texas an independent state was resolved at the Constitution of 1836.</p> <p>d. In the Convention of 1833, the delegates made the same decisions they had made in an earlier convention.</p> <p>e. The delegates pledged to be loyal to Mexico only if Mexico restored the Constitution of 1824.</p> <p>f. All night, the Mexican troops braced for an attack from the Texas army.</p> <p>g. The Runaway Scrape happened after word spread in Texas about the fall of the Alamo.</p> <p>h. Mexican cannons bombarded the Alamo.</p> <p>i. The delegates were unanimous in their decision to make Texas independent.</p> <p>j. Mexican soldiers shot more than 400 Texans during the Goliad massacre.</p> <p>k. The Texas settlers deserted their property during the Runaway Scrape.</p> <p>l. The possibilities of a better life lured empresarios to Texas.</p> |
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Provide brief answers for each of the following.

1. Think about the causes and battles of the Texas Revolution (Goliad, the Alamo, and San Jacinto). List and explain **two** reasons why Texas wanted independence from Mexico.
2. In what ways did the siege help Santa Anna defeat the Texans at the Battle of the Alamo?
3. When Texas settlers declared independence from Mexico during the Texas Revolution, what did their constitution say about slavery?
4. Think about the Runaway Scrape during the Texas Revolution. How were regular families in Texas affected by the war?
5. What was the result of the Battle of San Jacinto?