

How can I best use these materials to support the Social Studies TEKS for Grade 7?

Use the research activity “Corroborating Sources” on the highly motivating topic of games so that students can practice their Social Studies Skills.

7.21(C) Organize and interpret information from outlines, reports, databases, and visuals including graphs, charts, timelines, and maps.

7.21(F) Identify bias in written, oral, and visual material.

7.21(G) Evaluate the validity of a source based on language, corroboration with other sources, and information about the author.

7.22(A) Use Social studies terminology correctly.

7.22(B) Use standard grammar, spelling, sentence structure, and punctuation.

7.23(A) Use a problem-solving process to identify a problem, gather information, list and consider options, consider advantages and disadvantages, choose and implement a solution, and evaluate the effectiveness of the solution.

7th Grade Teachers: Note this Texas connection

In its catalog entry for the book *Winning 42: Strategy and Lore of the National Game of Texas* by Dennis Roberson, Texas Tech University Press touts:

42 was borne of necessity, human ingenuity, and a curious religious loophole. In 1887, in the tiny hamlet of Trappe Spring, Texas, the Baptists were the law and the law said that card playing was the devil's work. Two game-loving Baptist boys were caught playing cards in the hayloft one day and disciplined severely, but not so severely as to dampen their appetites for a rousing game of bidding. Being the resourceful youths that Trappe Spring was wont to produce, they devised an exciting alternative played with dominoes. As they taught the game, which they named 42, to friends and family, it caught on, whipping across the state like a blue norther—eventually becoming the mainstay of social events and domino parlors alike.