

# LESSON 32

## Crime in Texas

- *Seven Index Crimes*
- *Crime Prevention*

### INSTRUCTIONAL SUGGESTIONS

1. Using “Crime in Texas,” students will complete the **Crime Graphic Organizer**.
2. Using “Texas Crime History,” students will answer the **Crime Questions for Understanding**.
3. Students will write a public service announcement showing their fellow students ways in which they can try to prevent crime. An extension activity may be having the students film the commercials and show them to the rest of the school as a public service announcement.
4. Students will analyze the statistics on seven major offenses, also called Index Crimes, for their county from the chart “Crime Profile of Texas Counties.” They should also research current crime prevention programs being implemented locally. Try the following websites: <http://www.tcpa.org> for Texas Crime Prevention Association, or <http://www.texansagainstcrime.org/> for Texans Against Crime as resources. Using this data, students will develop their own crime prevention program addressing local needs. Contact your local police department and ask if they will come speak to your class about crime prevention and how the students could help.
5. Students will write a letter to the editor expressing their opinions about whether minors should or should not be tried and punished as adults. Letters should include supporting details for the position taken.

*The Texas Prison Museum has been open since 1989. Ron Billings photo; Texas Forest Service.*

#### SOCIAL STUDIES TEKS

4 - 17, 21, 22, 23

7- 16, 21, 22, 23

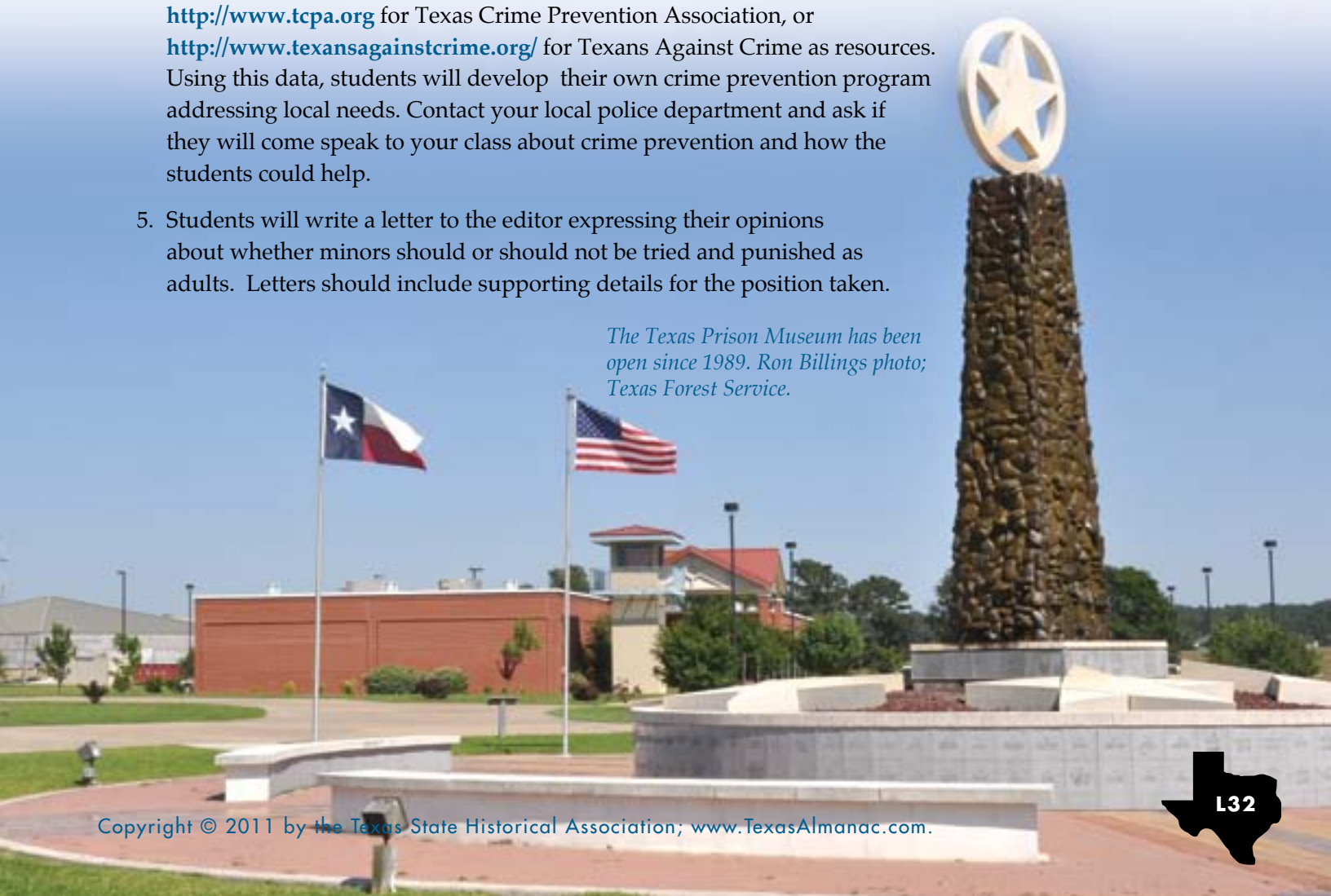
8 - 19, 29, 30

#### STAAR

4, 7 - Writing - 1, 2, 3

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

8 - Social Studies - 3



# Crime Graphic Organizer



**Total Number of Major Crimes**

**Violent**

**Crime Rate**

**Nonviolent**

**Total Number of Arrests**

**Arson Property Damage**

**Family Violence**

**Hate Crimes**

## Crime Questions for Understanding

1. What were the three sources used in compiling the information for Texas Crime History chart?
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
2. In what year was motor vehicle theft at its highest level? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What is the proportional figure of the population used to determine the crime rate?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. In what year was robbery at its lowest level? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Which crime had the highest decrease between 2003 and 2004? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What was the population figure used to determine the 2004 crime rate?  
\_\_\_\_\_ Who supplies this data? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Which crime had the greatest increase between 2003 and 2004? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Which of these crimes — rape, aggravated assault, or burglary — had the largest increase between 2003 and 2004? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Which of these crimes — aggravated assault, burglary, or motor vehicle theft — had the greatest decrease between 1999 and 2000? \_\_\_\_\_

