

# SPECIAL LESSON 4

## Mineral Spas in Texas

- From the *Texas Almanac* 2006–2007
- [www.texasalmanac.com/topics/science/mineral-water-spas-texas](http://www.texasalmanac.com/topics/science/mineral-water-spas-texas)

### SOCIAL STUDIES TEKS

4 - 21, 22, 23

7 - 20, 21, 22

8 - 29, 30

### STAAR

4, 7 - Writing - 1, 2, 3

4, 7, 8 - Reading - 2, 3

### INSTRUCTIONAL SUGGESTIONS

1. Students will construct a **Miniature Book** (Appendix) about a spa described in pages 37–41 or in the **online article**. The book should include an illustrated cover, a map of its location, activities available, a daily schedule, and testimonials.
2. In pairs, students will create a colorful poster advertising the opening of a new spa in Texas, using pages 37–41. They should include the name, location, amenities, reasons for people to “take the water,” cost, and medicinal benefits.
3. Students will complete the **Taking the Waters Mystery Word Puzzle**, using pages 37–41. They should read each statement and determine if it is true or false. If it is true, connect the numbers indicated by the “T.” If it false, connect the numbers indicated by the “F.”



*(pictured left) The mineral water wells in and around Mineral Wells drew people to the opulent Baker Hotel. This 1940s postcard of the hotel is courtesy of the Dallas Public Library, Texas/Dallas History and Archives Division.*

*(pictured right) Hot mineral water was discovered at Marlin in Falls County in 1891 and led to the opening of sanitariums like the one in this early 1900s postcard, which is courtesy of the Dallas Public Library, Texas/Dallas History and Archives Division.*



## Taking the Waters Mystery Word Puzzle

1. Indian artifacts can be found near freshwater springs.  
**T - 28 to 41**  
**F - 1 to 2**
2. Oil is the predominant mineral in Texas' mineral waters.  
**T - 45 to 54**  
**F - 77 to 83**
3. Mineral water has no odor or flavor.  
**T - 126 to 134**  
**F - 93 to 104**
4. Settlers believed mineral waters had medicinal benefits.  
**T - 14 to 15**  
**F - 131 to 137**
5. Boquillas Hot Springs is located in Big Bend National Park.  
**T - 113 to 123**  
**F - 17 to 21**
6. Europeans had no mineral waters.  
**T - 41 to 46**  
**F - 60 to 62**
7. Nearly every Texas county has mineral springs.  
**T - 101 to 110**  
**F - 129 to 130**
8. Underground water is usually found by people drilling for oil.  
**T - 79 to 85**  
**F - 91 to 93**
9. Some mineral waters emerge from the earth well above body temperatures.  
**T - 114 to 124**  
**F - 81 to 88**
10. Each spring in Hudspeth County's Hot Springs is a different temperature.  
**T - 16 to 21**  
**F - 35 to 37**
11. Some of Texas' mineral springs were opened to the public in the early 1800s.  
**T - 65 to 71**  
**F - 127 to 128**
12. Sam Houston visited Sour Lake in Hardin County in 1863.  
**T - 91 to 103**  
**F - 100 to 101**
13. "Taking the waters" means people would steal containers of mineral water.  
**T - 19 to 20**  
**F - 78 to 84**
14. In the 1890s, most Texas spas were in the southern part of the state.  
**T - 116 to 126**  
**F - 51 to 57**
15. Most spas in the United States were closed by 1930.  
**T - 5 to 10**  
**F - 125 to 126**
16. Some spas offered treatments supervised by doctors.  
**T - 60 to 73**  
**F - 22 to 33**
17. A few spas had elegant hotels for its guests.  
**T - 123 to 124**  
**F - 9 to 14**
18. Spa owners never claimed mineral waters could treat medical problems.  
**T - 62 to 67**  
**F - 27 to 40**
19. Many scientific studies were done to document medical cures at the spas.  
**T - 82 to 83**  
**F - 25 to 32**
20. It was illegal to sell bottled mineral water.  
**T - 76 to 78**  
**F - 55 to 59**
21. Moses Hughes claimed his wife's liver problems were cured at the Lampasas mineral springs.  
**T - 85 to 87**  
**F - 13 to 18**
22. In the 1870s, visitors to Hancock Springs usually camped in tents.  
**T - 61 to 67**  
**F - 45 to 46**
23. In 1883, a fire destroyed Hancock Springs.  
**T - 128 to 135**  
**F - 52 to 64**

## Taking the Waters Mystery Word Puzzle (continued)

24. The popularity of the spa in Lampasas grew when the railroad extended its tracks to Ballinger.  
**T - 129 to 133**  
**F - 100 to 109**
25. A treatment center for alcoholics operated at Hanna Springs.  
**T - 5 to 6**  
**F - 40 to 53**
26. Texas A & M University took over the main building at Hanna Springs in 1894.  
**T - 8 to 17**  
**F - 86 to 97**
27. "Crazy Well" was located at Mineral Wells.  
**T - 75 to 76**  
**F - 71 to 77**
28. Only two wells for mineral waters were drilled at Mineral Wells.  
**T - 132 to 134**  
**F - 53 to 65**
29. Few people went to Mineral Wells for the spring waters.  
**T - 105 to 111**  
**F - 109 to 110**
30. There was a variety of activities available for visitors to Mineral Wells.  
**T - 64 to 65**  
**F - 129 to 136**
31. Hal and Carr Collins remodeled the Crazy Water Hotel in 1927.  
**T - 21 to 25**  
**F - 43 to 48**
32. Many well-known people were guests at the Baker Hotel in Mineral Wells.  
**T - 86 to 96**  
**F - 3 to 4**
33. The Baker Hotel sold crystals made from the minerals.  
**T - 40 to 41**  
**F - 10 to 14**
34. The Crazy Water Company lost millions of dollars during the Depression.  
**T - 63 to 67**  
**F - 69 to 81**
35. The Crazy Water Hotel now serves as the Mineral Well City Hall.  
**T - 88 to 91**  
**F - 112 to 119**
36. Sulfur-laden waters were discovered in Marlin in 1891.  
**T - 99 to 108**  
**F - 93 to 99**
37. Clinics, bathhouses, and sanitariums were built in Marlin.  
**T - 36 to 37**  
**F - 102 to 105**
38. Mineral waters were discovered at Marlin before being discovered at Lampasas.  
**T - 79 to 80**  
**F - 62 to 74**
39. The New York Giants baseball team trained in Marlin from 1908 to 1919.  
**T - 85 to 95**  
**F - 17 to 22**
40. Polio victims were treated in Marlin.  
**T - 92 to 98**  
**F - 11 to 15**
41. Marlin doctors felt baths alone could cure medical problems.  
**T - 44 to 45**  
**F - 23 to 24**
42. Hot Wells Hotel and Bath House was opened near the Alamo in 1900.  
**T - 71 to 78**  
**F - 48 to 49**
43. People of San Antonio refused to "take the waters."  
**T - 133 to 137**  
**F - 106 to 112**
44. A variety of activities was offered at the Hot Wells Hotel and Bath House.  
**T - 99 to 100**  
**F - 67 to 74**
45. The Hot Wells Hotel and Bath House was destroyed by a tornado.  
**T - 69 to 76**  
**F - 32 to 38**
46. Modern medicines contributed to the demise of mineral-water spas.  
**T - 27 to 28**  
**F - 25 to 26**

# Taking the Waters Mystery Word Puzzle (continued)

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <p>47. The Great Depression was a cause of the closing of some spas.<br/>T - 36 to 49<br/>F - 126 to 131</p>                                     | <p>50. Kessler Springs closed the same year Wizard Wells opened.<br/>T - 12 to 13<br/>F - 128 to 135</p>                                       | <p>54. Four mineral spas were located in the Trans-Pecos area.<br/>T - 95 to 96<br/>F - 88 to 89</p>          |
| <p>48. The Food and Drug Administration discovered that some samples of mineral water were contaminated.<br/>T - 57 to 63<br/>F - 112 to 118</p> | <p>51. Arlington Mineral Wells and Hot Wells in San Antonio opened the same year.<br/>T - 52 to 54<br/>F - 54 to 77</p>                        | <p>55. Salado (Key's Wells) is south of Hughes Spring (Gooch Spring).<br/>T - 21 to 22<br/>F - 111 to 117</p> |
| <p>49. Stovall Hot Wells continues to offer mineral-water baths.<br/>T - 114 to 125<br/>F - 108 to 115</p>                                       | <p>52. Hughes Springs (Chalybeate Springs) closed twenty years after Philips Springs opened.<br/>T - 83 to 90<br/>F - 74 to 90</p>             | <p>56. Most spas were located in the Panhandle.<br/>T - 113 to 119<br/>F - 113 to 115</p>                     |
|  | <p>53. Hot Springs (Boquillas Hot Springs) opened during the same decade Waco Hot Artesian Wells closed.<br/>T - 41 to 42<br/>F - 28 to 29</p> | <p>57. Two spas were located in Cherokee County.<br/>T - 29 to 42<br/>F - 122 to 127</p>                      |

5 • 9 • 14 • 23 • 36 • 48 • 60 • 66 • 73 • 85 • 95 • 112 • 118 • 127 • 134 •

10 • 19 • 30 • 43 • 56 • 61 • 67 • 79 • 86 • 96 • 105 • 111 • 117 • 122 • 132 •

1 • 6 • 15 • 24 • 37 • 49 • 62 • 68 • 74 • 87 • 97 • 106 • 119 • 128 • 135 •

11 • 16 • 20 • 31 • 38 • 44 • 50 • 57 • 69 • 75 • 81 • 91 • 103 • 113 • 123 • 136 •

2 • 7 • 12 • 26 • 39 • 47 • 55 • 59 • 70 • 82 • 92 • 98 • 107 • 114 • 124 • 129 •

3 • 17 • 21 • 32 • 45 • 51 • 58 • 63 • 76 • 88 • 93 • 104 • 115 • 125 • 133 •

8 • 27 • 40 • 52 • 64 • 72 • 83 • 89 • 99 • 108 • 120 • 130 •

13 • 22 • 28 • 33 • 41 • 46 • 53 • 65 • 78 • 84 • 94 • 100 • 109 • 116 • 126 • 137 •

4 • 18 • 29 • 34 • 42 • 54 • 71 • 77 • 90 • 101 • 110 • 121 • 138 •

