

LESSON 32

TEXAS ALMANAC TEACHERS GUIDE

Crime in Texas

- *Seven Index Crimes*
- *Crime Prevention*

INSTRUCTIONAL SUGGESTIONS

- 1. CRIME GRAPHIC ORGANIZER:** Using “Crime in Texas” in the Government section of the Texas Almanac, students will complete the **Crime Graphic Organizer Student Activity Sheet**.
- 2. CRIME QUESTIONS:** Using “Texas Crime History,” students will answer the **Crime Questions for Understanding** on the **Student Activity Sheet**.
- 3. CRIME PREVENTION PSA:** Students will write a **public service announcement** showing their fellow students ways in which they can try to prevent crime. **Extension activity:** Have students film the commercials and show them to the rest of the school as important PSAa.
- 4. COUNTY CRIME STATISTICS:** Students will **analyze the statistics** on seven major crime categories, 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 as resources:

<http://www.tcpa.org> for Texas Crime Prevention Association

<http://173.219.2.4/index.htm> for Texans Against Crime

<http://www.peopleagainstviolentcrime.org> for People Against Violent Crime

Using this data, students will develop a 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 students can help.

- 5. LETTER TO THE EDITOR:** 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. Photo by Ron Billings; Texas A&M Forest Service.

SOCIAL STUDIES TEKS

4 - 17, 21, 22, 23

7- 16, 21, 22, 23

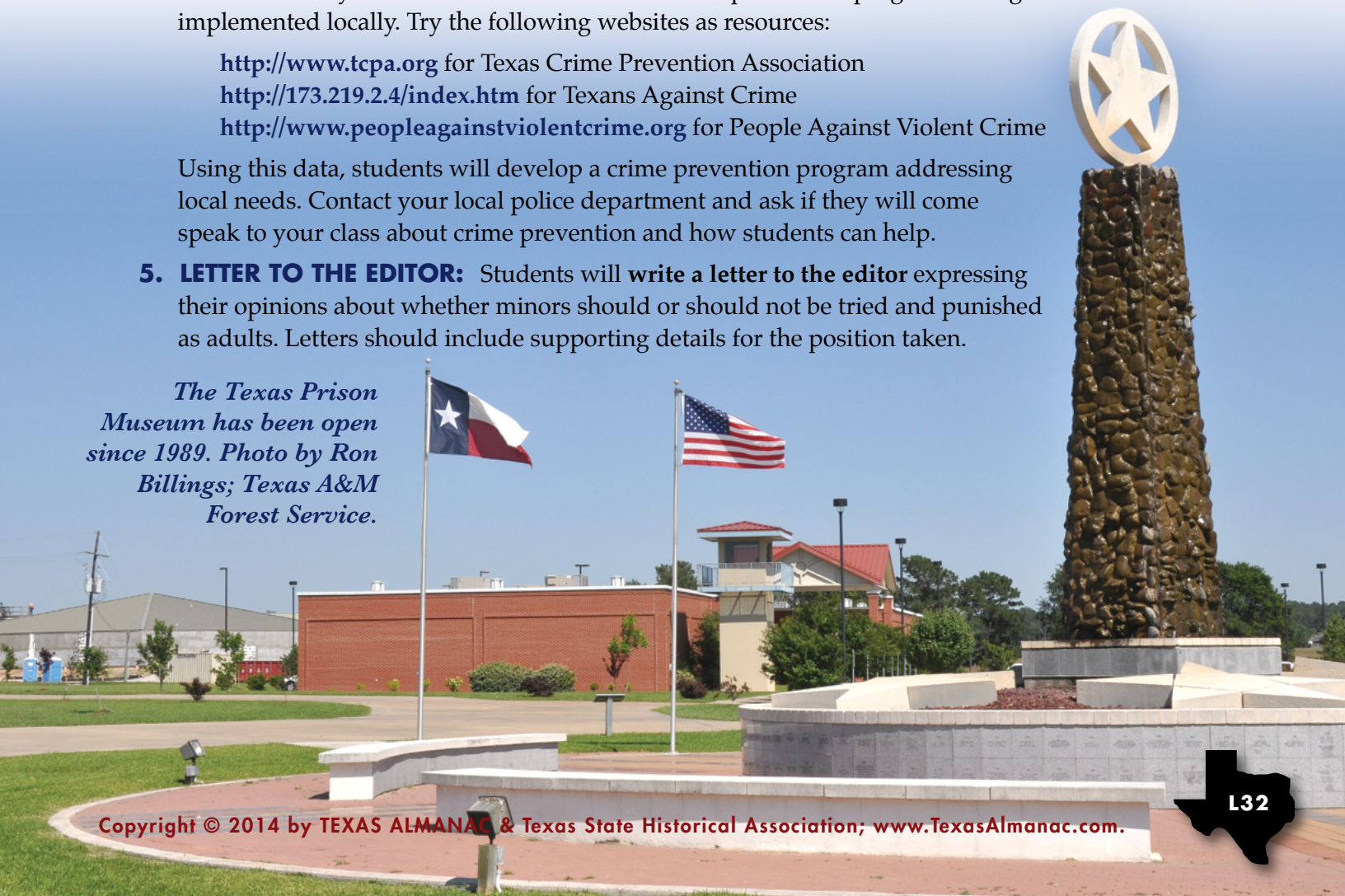
8 - 19, 29, 30

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 & Crime Rate

Major Crime Categories

Violent

Nonviolent

Total Number of Arrests

Arson Property Damage

Family Violence

Reported incidents:

Number of victims:

Number of offenders:

Hate Crimes

Reported incidents:

Number of victims:

Number of offenders:

Crime Questions for Understanding

Use the “Crime in Texas” pages in the Government section of the Texas Almanac to answer these questions.

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 is the population figure used to determine the crime rate in the Texas Almanac you are using? _____ 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? _____