

# How To Help Your Child In Social Studies

## Top 10 List

- 1. READ! Read newspapers, news magazines, biographies, non-fiction, historical fiction, and primary sources- speeches, documents, letters, songs etc. from a particular time period. You can find book lists here!**
- 2. Read and interpret charts, graphs, and maps.**
- 3. Take your child to a museum or a historic site. Many museums and sites have family days or special hours at reduced rates or free.**
- 4. Encourage your child to write by keeping a journal and reflections of what they have read or observed.**
- 5. Try to have dinner together to discuss the events of the day and ask your child about what they are studying in school.**
- 6. For a birthday or holiday, buy your child a book, biography, map or globe.**
- 7. Have your child read a map and help plan a route on a trip.**
- 8. Encourage your child to respect people and other viewpoints. Celebrate your heritage and learn about other cultures as well.**
- 9. Encourage your child to participate in academic contests such as The San Antonio Regional History Fair (Grades 6-12); U.I.L. Middle and High School; Geography Bee (Grades 4-8); Citizen Bee (11-12) and numerous essay contests.**
- 10. Watch educational T.V. Programs together such as K.L.R.N Public Television (Ken Burns); or the History Channel programs.**

## Community Resources: Museums Help Teach Social Studies

Here are ten ideas about teaching social studies through museums and historic sites.

- 1. Museums are a significant TEKS teaching resource.**
- 2. Museums and historic sites inspire students.**
- 3. There are many types of museums.**
- 4. Museums offer students informal opportunities to learn-and can help you to design rich experiences for your students/children.**
- 5. Museums and historic sites have good curriculum support materials.**

6. Virtual Trips to a museum or historic site are almost as good as real trips.
7. A successful museum trip involves the Three P's: preparation, participation, and post-visit reflection.
8. You and your students/children can make a museum together.
9. Museum educators and curators are both resources and role models.
10. Texas has many excellent museums with unlimited learning opportunities.

San Antonio Area	Austin Area	Hill Country Area/College Station
<a href="#"><u>Institute of Texan Cultures</u></a> <a href="#"><u>San Antonio Museum of Art</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Witte Museum</u></a> <a href="#"><u>San Antonio Children's Museum</u></a> <a href="#"><u>San Antonio Missions National Historic Park</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Navarro House State Park</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Spanish Governor's Palace</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>State Capitol</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Governor's Mansion</u></a> <a href="#"><u>LBJ Presidential Library</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>Bob Bullock Museum</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>LBJ Ranch</u></a> <a href="#"><u>LBJ Boyhood Home</u></a> <a href="#"><u>George Bush Presidential Library</u></a>