Texas Originals

**Introduction:** We are not the first people to *Walk Across Texas*. Many of the nomadic tribes of Texas were doing this long before we got here. Before Europeans introduced horses to the Native Americans, walking was their primary mode of transportation. Even after horses were available, most of the women and children still had to walk. This is only one fascinating fact about the first Texans.

**Grade Level and Subject:** Seventh Grade Texas History

**TEKS:** TH 2a, 9b, 9c, 10a, 11a, 20a, 21a, 22a, 22b, 22c, 22d

**Materials:** Students will need access to the Internet to gather their information, as well as access to PowerPoint software. Students will need a projector to present their information. It may also be presented as a poster; if this is the case, students will need poster boards, glue sticks, markers, and scissors.

**Resources:** Textbooks, *Texas Handbook*, *Texas Almanac*, Texas atlas, Texas maps, encyclopedias, etc.

**Websites:**
- [http://www.tshaonline.org](http://www.tshaonline.org)
- [http://www.texancultures.utsa.edu/publications/texansoneandall/nativeamerican.htm](http://www.texancultures.utsa.edu/publications/texansoneandall/nativeamerican.htm)
- [http://www.texasindians.com](http://www.texasindians.com)
- [http://www.texasindians.com/maps.htm](http://www.texasindians.com/maps.htm)
- [http://www.lsjunction.com/places/indians.htm](http://www.lsjunction.com/places/indians.htm)

**Activity:** Assign small groups a Texas Native American tribe that lived or traveled within the *Walk Across Texas* route before European colonization. Each group will produce a PowerPoint presentation or poster in which they depict the culture of their assigned tribe. The project should include the following information:

- What was the name of the tribe?
- What was the climate and terrain like in the region? How did this affect how they lived?
- Did they travel or have permanent villages?
- How did they travel? Did most of them walk?
- What kinds of trees and vegetation were in their region? How did they use these resources?
- What kinds of shelters did they have?
- What did they eat? Did they plant crops? What animals did they depend on for food?
- How did they dress? What did they use to make clothing?
- What jobs did the women have? What jobs did the men have? What jobs did the children have?
- What did they use to make tools and weapons? How did they make them?
- Describe a normal day in the life of a man, woman, or child in the tribe.
- Include pictures or drawings to illustrate the tribe and its lifestyle.

**Evaluation:** Students should be evaluated based on the inclusion and quality of the above criteria.