Texas, Our Texas

Introduction: Texas is one of the 50 states of the United States. As we walk across Texas, we will get to know the symbols of our special state.

Grade Level and Subject: First grade Social Studies and Language Arts

TEKS: Social Studies: 1a, 2a, 2b, 2c, 5b, 6a, 11a, 13a, 13b, 17a, 17b, 18a, 18b; Language Arts: 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 13b

Materials:
- coloring pages from Texas Bob website
- crayons

Resources:
- computer with projector
- PowerPoint presentation over Texas symbols (included with this lesson)

Websites:
http://www.texasbob.com/colorindex.html
http://www.lsjunction.com/song.htm

Activity: Show students the PowerPoint slide show over the symbols of Texas. The PowerPoint Notes Pages contain some brief notes with each slide to encourage discussion. (The Notes Pages are included below, too.) Print and copy the pages from the Texas Bob website of the mockingbird, bluebonnet, state flag, state tree, armadillo, and state insect. Using the state flag page as the cover, create a coloring booklet for each student. Play the state song, and have students sing along as they color their booklet.

Evaluation: Evaluate students using a group or class oral quiz over the symbols and song.
The word “lone” means one. The lone star shown here represents the capitol city of Austin, Texas.
The reason Texas is called the “Lone Star State” is because our state flag has one big star on it. What colors are on the Texas flag? Just like the United States flag, we also pledge allegiance to the Texas flag. Texas is the only state that was once its own country.
The state bird of Texas is the Mockingbird. It is named for its ability to copy, or mock, the sounds that other birds make.
The state flower of Texas is the Bluebonnet. In the spring, around Easter, you can see lots of bluebonnets along the roads and in the fields of Texas.
The pecan tree is the state tree of Texas. There are thousands of pecan trees throughout Texas, and the pecans make delicious pies and other sweet treats for all Texans to enjoy. Many Texas pecans are shipped all over the United States.
The beautiful Monarch Butterfly is the Texas State insect. These butterflies travel all the way from South America once a year.
A mammal is a type of animal just like a bird is a type of animal. Birds have feathers and lay eggs. Mammals usually have hair or fur and have live babies. Even though an armadillo has a hard shell on his back, his tummy is covered with fine hair. We see lots of armadillos in Texas.
Texas State Song
“Texas, Our Texas”

Texas, Our Texas! all hail the mighty State!
Texas, Our Texas! so wonderful so great!
Boldest and grandest, withstanding ev'ry test
O Empire wide and glorious, you stand supremely blest.
God bless you Texas! And keep you brave and strong,
That you may grow in power and worth, throughout the ages long.
God bless you Texas! And keep you brave and strong,
That you may grow in power and worth, throughout the ages long.

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Texas has its very own song. (Teacher Note: Go to website on the bottom of the slide and students can hear the song and learn to sing along.)