

## **Mountain and Basins Region**

**Learning Objectives:** The student will:

- Identify the region of mountains and basins in Texas on a map.
- Demonstrate their understanding by doing an activity that will allow them recognize plants and animals in a region.

**TEKS:** (1.6 A)

**Vocabulary:**

- Mountains
- Basins
- Desert
- Region
- Cactus
- Rattlesnake
- Cactus mouse
- Horned Lizard
- Agave
- Sunflower
- Mexican pinyon pine
- Desert sage

**Materials:**

A social studies box in the shape of the mountains and basins' region located in Texas, which also contains the following:

- Map of the regions of Texas
- Different types of animals that live in the region (For example coyote, rattlesnakes, cactus mouse, horned lizard, deer)
- Different types of plants (For example cacti, desert sage)
- Mountains and basins
- The Rio Grande river
- Different types of land. (desert sand, dirt located by the lake, mountains, basins, etc)

In addition, these items are needed:

1. Activity sheet with different animals and plants
2. Scissors
3. Glue
4. Pencil
5. Prezi Presentation
6. Video in Youtube

**Teaching Strategy:**

1. Teacher will introduce the social studies box. Start introducing the social studies box with questions like: “Have you ever wondered where you see mountains? Do we see mountains here in San Antonio? Why is that? Well today we are going to be talking about a region that has many mountains, nothing like what we have here today. Its climate is really dry and hot, and it even has many desert zones but it also has rivers”.
2. Teacher will show the box to the students. Discuss with students and instruct them to talk to partners and predict what do they think will be inside the box? “Pay close attention to the images that I have around the box and think what is inside the box”.
3. Pick two students so they can let the whole class about what they thought the box had. Then the teacher is going to open the box and show it to the class. Teacher and students activated prior knowledge by talking about mountains and basins in the region of Texas. The teacher is going to show the class a presentation in *Prezi*. Some of the information given on the presentation would be: Where is this region located on a map? Does it have rivers? What are some characteristics of this region? Etc. It also is going to have a video of the mountains and basins region. The link for the video is the following: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J482hzYp3Lw>
4. The video is going to lead the students in a discussion in which they are going to talk more in depth about the characteristics of the animals and plants.
5. After giving the presentation in groups of four, the students will be passing to the front to see the box. They will be able to manipulate the objects in the box.
6. Once all the class has gone to the front, teacher will introduce the activity. The students are going to cut and paste images of animals and plants that live in the regions and others who do not. They would need to think about their characteristics and paste them in the place where they belong. Some of the images would not be used, so they will really need to pay attention to those details.

**Inclusion of parents/family/community:**

Based on the activities done in the day, the students can take what they have written and with their parents create a map of Texas. The map of Texas needs to include all the animals, plants and mountains and basins that we learned about that day. They can decorate the map with anything that they want.

**Extension/academic reinforcement:**

The next day the students are going to present what they have brought from home. We are going to reinforce all the animals, plants, mountains and basins and how they are located in that region.



Mountains and basins of Texas

Cut out the animals and plants below and think about the Texas Mountain and basins region where they will be found in. Then cut and paste the pictures.

Animals	Plants

Note: (not all of the pictures will be used)

 Sulfur spilla	 Deer	 Sheep	 Cocopal tree
 Horned lizard	 Polar bear	 Cactus mouse	 Palm tree
 Rooster	 Horse	 Apple tree	 Sunflower
 Honey bee	 Tulip	 Desert sage	 Agave