

Teaching Suggestions

After Texas gained independence and joined the Union, disputes about its boundaries continued. Eventually these disputes led to war between the United States and Mexico. The effects on both countries were far-reaching. This map shows the major action of the war.

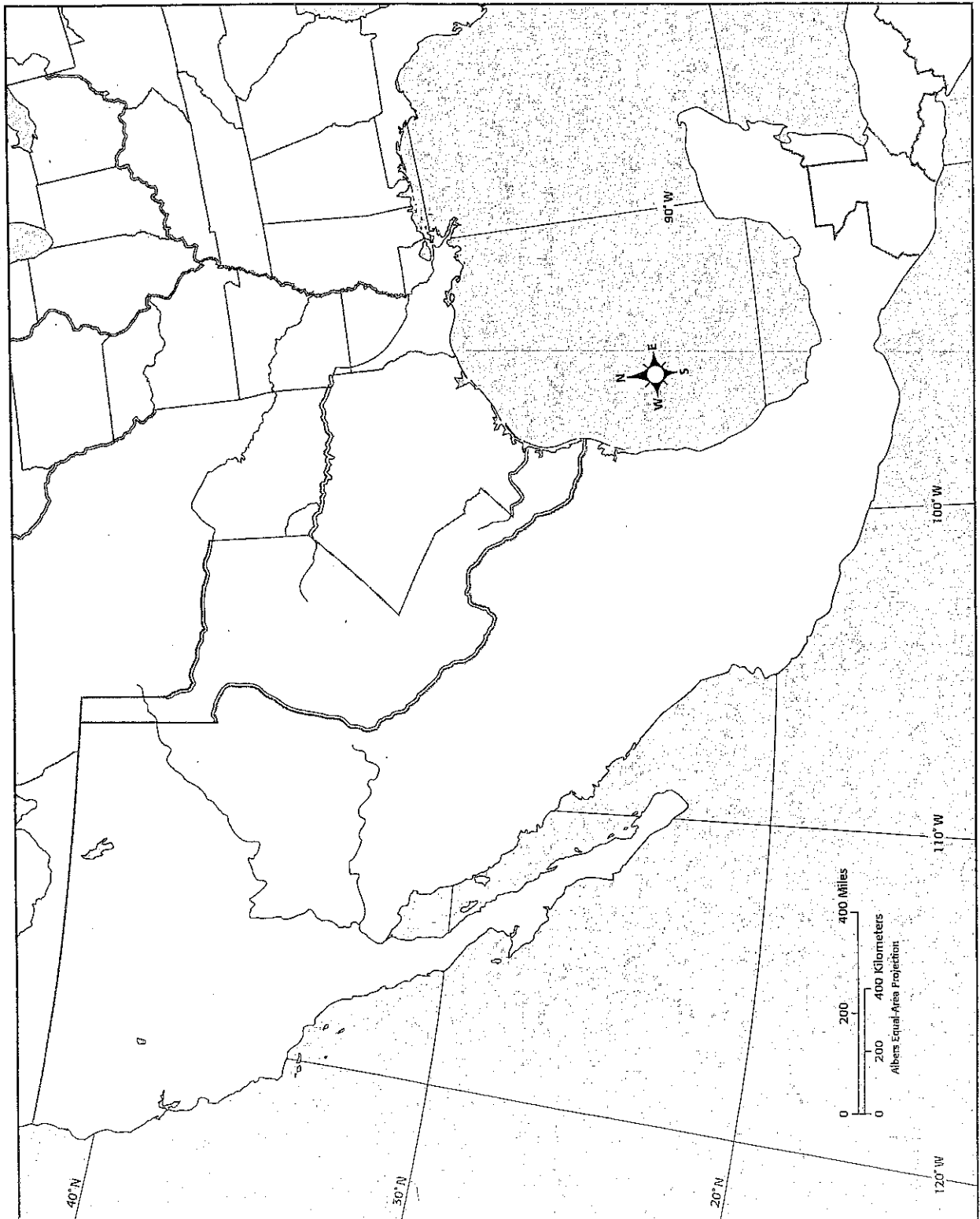
1. Have students color the United States, Mexico, and Texas. Have them use stripes to show disputed territory. Remind them to create a legend for their maps.
2. Have students use the scale of miles to measure the distance along the Gulf coast between the Nueces River and the Rio Grande.
3. The Bear Flag Revolt took place during the Mexican War. Ask students in what present-day state the Bear Flag Revolt took place, and have them mark and label the location on their maps.
4. Ask students where Stephen Kearny set out. Ask what rivers he followed after he left Santa Fe. Have students mark and label these rivers on their maps, and ask them why following rivers would have been particularly important in the environment of the Southwest. Ask students where his expedition ended, and have them mark the city on their maps and label it.
5. Monterrey was the site of an important U.S. victory. Have students mark and label the location on their maps. Ask from which directions U.S. troops approached the battle.



Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

AMERICAN HISTORY OUTLINE MAPS

The Mexican War



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