

# Activity #18: *The Tale of Chipilo*

## Texas Ecoregions

### **Materials Needed:**

- Blank map of Texas with ecoregions on it (map is included)
- Pictures or clip art from magazines, computers, free clip art or other sources available (Hint: download free clip art pictures of species, can be close ones like any toad for Houston toad–print them on paper and have ready for students to cut out)

### **Background Activity:**

Review the “Ecoregions of Texas” PowerPoint presentation with the class.

### **Activity:**

Give each student (or teams/partners) a blank map of Texas with the ecoregions drawn on it (included in with this activity). Have students draw, color or put the following things on their map and then post the maps up around the room.

- 1) Color each Texas ecoregion with a different color
- 2) Label each Texas ecoregion use “Texas Ecoregions Information” or the PowerPoint for reference
- 3) Put a compass rose on the map (North, South, East, West)
- 4) Label the Rio Grande River and the Red River
- 5) Draw in and label the Chisos, Davis and Guadalupe Mountains
- 6) Select one endangered species from each ecoregion and draw or put a picture of that species in the ecoregion it is found in. Clip art, magazine pictures or pictures that are drawn on the map can be used. Label the endangered species.

### **Grading Rubric:**

- 20 pts Each ecoregion colored
- 20 pts Each ecoregion labeled
- 8 pts Compass rose present
- 10 pts Two Rivers are labeled correctly
- 12 pts Three Mountain Ranges are labeled correctly
- 30 pts One endangered species pictured on the map for each ecoregion

**Assessment:**

Students will label a blank map of Texas ecoregions and will write in two endangered species in the ecoregion where they live.

**Discussion questions:**

- Is the Panhandle in the north or south part of Texas?
- Is the Rio Grande on the northern or southern border of Texas?
- Is the Trans Pecos ecoregion in west or east Texas?
- Is the Gulf Coast and Prairies ecoregion on the east or west side of Texas?
- Is the Edward's Plateau in the northeastern part of Texas or the central part of Texas?

**Additional Assessment for Habitats Topic Key:**

- 1) a.    2) c.    3) b.    4) d.    5) Answers will vary

**Alignment:**

Grade 3 (red)            Grade 4 (blue)            Grade 5 (green)            Grade 6 (purple)

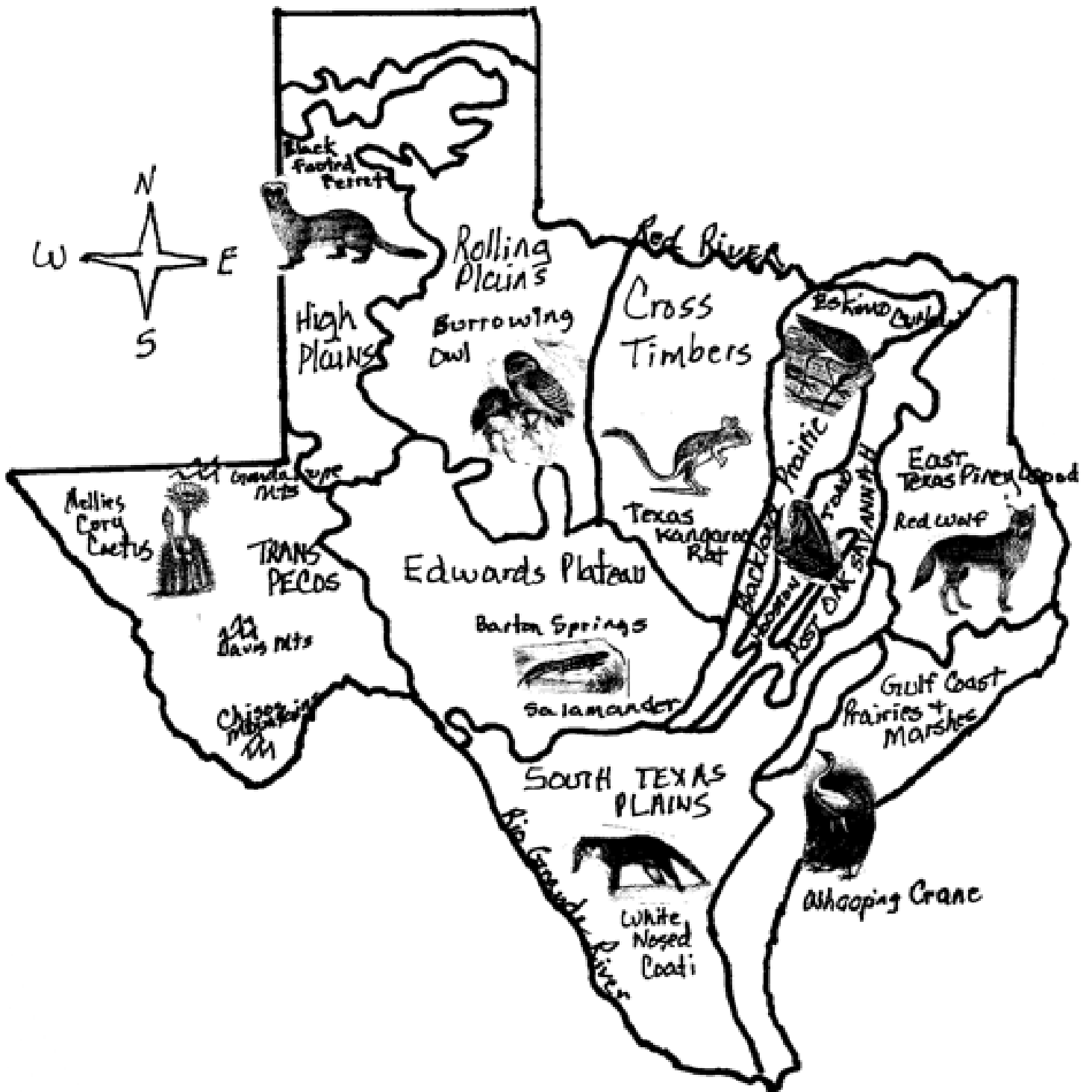
English Language Arts & Reading student expectations: 22(A-C), 23(A-D), 24(A-F); 20(A-C), 21(A-C), 22(A-C); 20(A-C), 21(A-C), 22(A-B); 19(A-C), 20(A-C)  
Mathematics student expectations: N/A  
Science student expectations: 7(C), 9(A); 7(C), 9(A); 7(B), 9(A); 12(E,F)  
Social studies student expectations: 4(A), 5(A,C,D), 17(E), 18(B); 6(A,B), 7(B), 22(A,D); 6(B), 7(B), 25(A,D); 3(A,B), 4(D), 6(A,B), 22(A,D)

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**Texas Ecoregions Map**



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## Texas Ecoregions Student Map Example



## Activity #18: *The Tale of Chipilo* Additional Assessment for Habitats

Circle the correct answer.

1) Which animal is found in a forest habitat?

- a. woodpecker
- b. prairie dog
- c. jackrabbit
- d. buffalo

2) Which is a freshwater habitat?

- a. bay
- b. ocean
- c. stream
- d. gulf

3) Which description best fits a prairie habitat?

- a. has many large oak and pine trees
- b. has grasses and wildflowers
- c. has cattails, pondweed and water lilies
- d. has cactus, yucca and century plants

4) Which of these goes best in a desert habitat?



5) Select one of the following habitats and write a brief description of that habitat and the plants and animals in it. Use complete sentences.

- Freshwater Habitat
- Grassland or Prairie Habitat
- Desert Habitat
- Forest Habitat