



Online Journal Teacher Guide

The Texas Capitol

1. What branch of government meets in the State Capitol? **Legislative Branch**
2. There are two chambers in the State Capitol for each house to gather. What are the names of the two houses of the Texas Legislature? **Senate and House of Representatives**
3. What is the main function of the Texas Legislature? **To make laws.**
4. Give an example of a state law. Answers will vary.
5. Where else can you find a capitol building? **In every state and in our nation's capitol.**

Government Officials

United States

President: **Donald Trump**

Vice President: **Mike Pence**

House of Representatives: 435 members

Senate: **100 members**

Texas

Governor: **Greg Abbott**

Lieutenant Governor: **Dan Patrick**

House of Representatives: **150 members**

Senate: **31 members**

Goddess of Liberty

1. What materials were used to make the original Goddess of Liberty? **Iron and zinc**
2. What materials were used to make the second version? **Aluminum alloy**
3. Why was the original removed from the top of the Capitol? **It was cracking the dome.**

Don't Trash That Trash

1. What is the study of the relationship between living things and the environment?
Ecology
2. When you throw your garbage away, where does it go? **Garbage goes to either a dump or a landfill.**

What Goes Around Comes Around

Are these statements true or false?

1. Tap water might have fallen from the sky as rainwater. **True**
2. Water from the tap has just been created on Earth. **False**
3. The amount of water on Earth changes every day. **False**

Inner Space Cavern

1. **Flowstone** resembles frozen waterfalls projecting from the ceiling, walls, and the floor of the cave.
2. **Stalagmites** grow up from the floor. They are usually formed by dripping water from stalactites above.
3. **Stalactites** grow down from the ceiling. They form as calcite is deposited around the outside of the soda straws after the centers of the soda straws become plugged.
4. **Columns** are formed when a stalactite and a stalagmite grow together from the floor to the ceiling.
5. **Soda straws** are thin hollow tubes that grow from the ceiling of caves as water runs down inside them and deposits rings of calcite at their tips.

Layers of the Earth

1. What is the study of the Earth? **Geology**
2. The outer layer of the Earth is the **crust**. It is the rocky "skin" that covers the whole earth. Parts of it can be seen as land. Other parts cannot be seen because they lie under the ocean.
3. The next layer is the **mantle**. It is the thickest layer of Earth. It is so hot in this layer that the rock here is molten.

4. At the center of the Earth is the core. It has two parts. The outer part is thought to be a shell of melted metal. The inner part is thought to be a solid ball of metal. Even though it is very hot in the inner part, the pressure there is so great that it cannot melt.