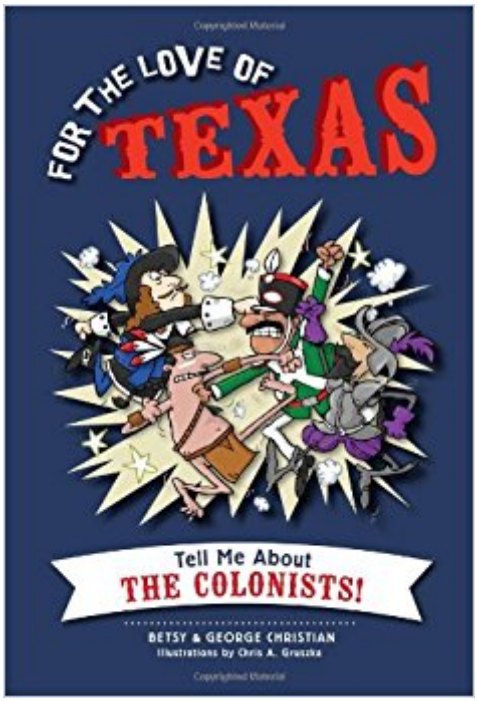
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For The Love Of Texas: Tell Me About The Colonists!



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Synopsis

Before Texas was Texas, it was a lot of things to a lot of different people. Comanche, Choctaw, French, Spanish, Mexican and more laid claim to Texas soil as their own, and no one wanted to share. The fights and alliances that arose out of the colonization of Texas shaped the state's future. Find out all about the beginning of the state and the colonists who helped pave the way for the Texas we now know. Saddle up with Betsy and George Christian for an interactive, fun chapter in Texas history for kids that challenges them to ask questions about the history they're told and the world in which they live.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1180L (What's this?)
Series: For the Love of Texas
Hardcover: 112 pages
Publisher: The History Press; First edition (July 9, 2013)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 162619159X
ISBN-13: 978-1626191594
Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.3 x 8.5 inches
Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces
Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 13 customer reviews
Best Sellers Rank: #609,262 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #212 inÃ Â Books > Travel > United States > South > West South Central #216 inÃ Â Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Reference & Collections #234 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > State & Local
Age Range: 8 - 12 years
Grade Level: 4 - 7

Customer Reviews

Betsy Christian is a writer, consultant and public relations professional living in Austin, Texas. Her writing has been mentioned in USA Today and The Irish Independent. She is a member of the Docents of the Governor's Mansion, the former executive director of the Keep Texas Beautiful Network and has worked with Preservation Austin's Inherit Austin. George Christian, PhD is a sixth-generation Texan who teaches at the University of Texas. Additionally he is a practicing political consultant, lawyer and member of the Friends of Washington on the Brazos. He is the

President of the Texas Civil Justice League and is the recipient of a 2009 Teaching Award from the University of Texas. Chris A. Gruszka is an artist and illustrator with SeeGru Ink and Animation. H.W. Brands is an historian and professor at the University of Texas at Austin. He is the author of 25 books, and his 2008 book TRAITOR TO HIS CLASS was named a Pulitzer Prize finalist in 2009.

What a great summer for Texas history fans: first we had the sweeping saga of The Son, by Philipp Meyer, and now we have two books in a great new series aimed at youth, For the Love of Texas, by Betsy and George Christian. These books, Tell Me About the Colonists! and Tell Me About the Revolution!, bring to life what in other hands too often is dry reading. The authors pack their books with plenty of history, using some of Texas history's most trusted sources, including H.W. Brands' Lone Star Nation and T.R. Fehrenbach's Lone Star. They're not afraid to provide some intrigue and unvarnished truths that most youth history books don't provide (e.g., despite Jim Bowie's heroic status, he committed a lot of land fraud) and bust a few myths (e.g., Travis did not draw a line at the Alamo). The authors also seek to keep their young audience's attention by speaking directly to them in conversation and asides (e.g., TMI! Howdy-do! Whew! Rude! Not! Nasty! Chill!), while giving their readers credit for wanting to be challenged by not hesitating to use some big words (e.g., mercurial, pusillanimous, protÃƒÂ©gÃƒÂ©) and referencing other historic or current political situations (e.g., slavery, immigration, political press conferences). I liked the sections that explained particular issues in more detail, particularly bios of some of the key individuals (e.g., Stephen Austin, Sam Houston, Jim Bowie, William Travis), the role many Native American tribes played (e.g., Comanche, Apache, Wichita, Karankawa), the importance of certain regions and cities (e.g., Mexico City, New Orleans), and the background for some key Texas words (e.g., Texians, Tejanos and Texans). The one thing I'd love to have had when reading these books was a nice fold-out map (from the books' funny illustrator, Chris Gruszka) to help put all these great stories, characters, places, and travels in visual context - maybe in the second edition!

Where have these book been all my life? Texas history has never looked so spicy and relevant as it does here. What a great read. As a Texas public school board member, I appreciated the historical accuracy and page-turning fun! This book complements the mandatory Texas history taught in Texas schools. Young adult readers will love this Texas-sized adventure.

Oh for the LOVE OF TEXAS, where is the dusty book jacket, the stuffy regurgitation of dates and facts and land grants? Now my 9 year old is going to actually enjoy learning about these things and

will know more than we do. Thanks a lot.

This book achieves the rare feat of telling the story of Texas in a way that appeals to both children and adults. It is well written, engaging, and a great read for all!

"These books treat kids like real people who can understand and discuss real issues. This Texas history respects difference and diversity, without taking anything away from the wonderful and unique story of our state."

I was happy to learn that even though I'm a little human being, there are still at least 3 ways for me to kill a buffalo, one of which includes boring them to death. This book does a great job of tempering facts about Texas history with fun anecdotes.

My son will love these books! Texas heroes are real people after all. This is no-holds barred fun--and it teaches my kids that history is a matter of perspective as much as fact.

"These books are perfect for reading aloud to your kids. They are written in a fun and conversational style that allows parents and kids to think about people and issues from different perspectives."

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