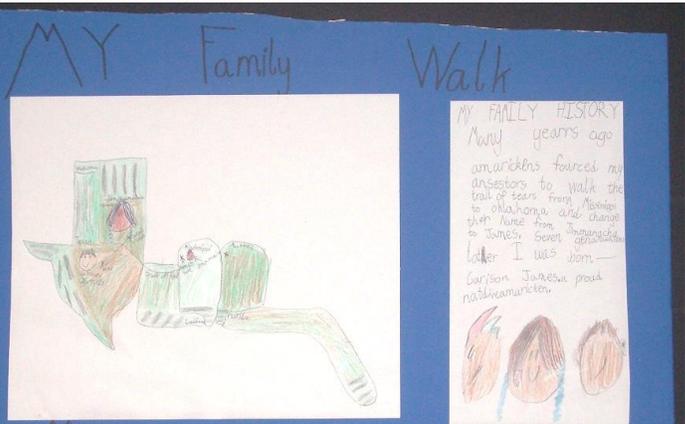
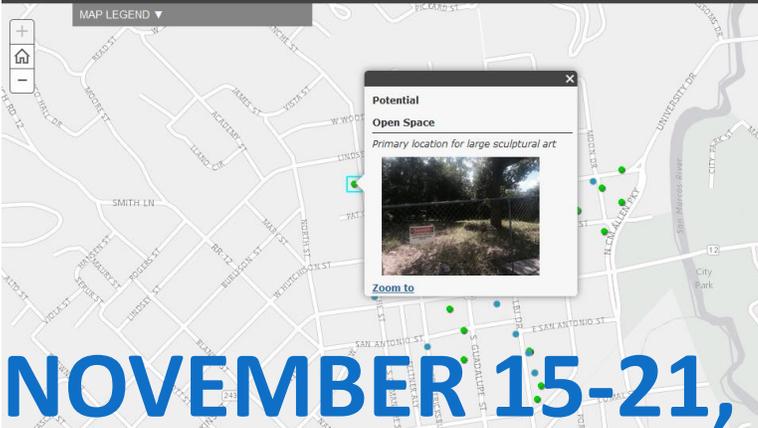
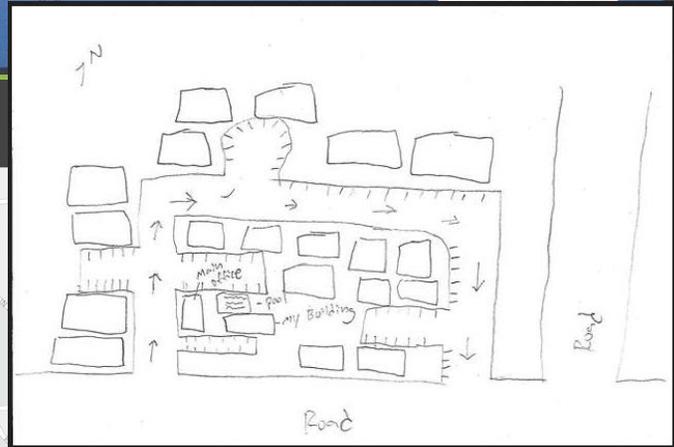


SMTX Public Art
Public art in downtown San Marcos, Texas.



MY FAMILY HISTORY
Many years ago
ancestors forced my
ancestors to walk the
rail of tears from
Massachusetts and
then here to
James, seven
later I was born -
Carlson James a proud
native American.



NOVEMBER 15-21, 2015 GEOGRAPHY AWARENESS WEEK



Explore! The Power of Maps

Celebrate and explore the power of maps. Spatial thinking through maps is one of the most important skills that students can develop as they learn geography. This year the Texas Alliance for Geographic Education will celebrate GeoWeek by inviting students and teachers across the state to create and share their maps online to show the world how *Everyone Can Make A Map!*

Help Us Create
A Map of Maps!

Weekly Lessons &
Activities

Monthly Webinars
for Teachers

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Explore! The Power of Maps

To celebrate the 2015 Geography Awareness Week theme, “Explore! The Power of Maps,” the Texas Alliance for Geographic Education invites Texas teachers and students to create and share maps. Maps can tell a story, show lots of data easily, and answer questions. Geographers decide which canvas, or basemap, to use, and which layers of data to add on top to recognize spatial patterns. This projects provides an opportunity for students and teachers to participate in the geography, art, and science of mapmaking while tracking participation online. We hope that this celebration engages Texas’ educational community to *Explore! The Power of Maps!* **This year we are not hosting a poster contest. This event is conducted solely for the enjoyment and education of making and exploring maps.**

Lesson plans, activities, and videos available at <http://www.geo.txstate.edu/tage/events/geo-week>

Mapping Process

- What question is your map going to answer? *Where are my socks? How many movie theaters are in my city? Where are my friends during the school day? How far is my locker from my classes? Where are the flood zones in my community? How likely will my house be hit by a tornado? Where is the nearest superfund site?*
- What data and information do you need to answer this question? *Population data, outline of a school, roads, etc.*
- Put your data on a map. Start with a basemap or basic outline and add features and layers of data that can help you answer your question.
- What patterns do you see? Do you have enough information to answer your question?
- Can you answer your question?
- Include the elements of a good map. Learn more in the Resources section of the [TAGE GeoWeek website](#).

Submission Deadlines

This project will remain open for submitting maps through Geography Awareness Week (November 15-21, 2015).

- Friday, October 30th, Project will be displayed at the Texas Council for the Social Studies conference.
- Friday, November 13th, Project will be displayed at the Texas Education Agency for GeoWeek.
- After GeoWeek, Project will remain on the Texas Alliance website.

How to Submit a Map

You can share map at <http://www.geo.txstate.edu/tage> and click on the GeoWeek button, then click Share Map. Teachers will receive a link to a downloadable certificate as well as a package of goodies (stickers, map, etc) for participating.

- Submit a map (hand drawn or created on a computer). Create an electronic image of the map (such as jpg, png, gif) that is a minimum size of 800x600 pixels. Upload the image to a website and grab the image URL. You will need to copy the image URL into the form. If you are unable to upload the image, you can email it to us at tage.geography@txstate.edu and we can host the image for you.
- The map needs a title and a brief description of approximately 50 words.
- Teachers can submit one image per form or multiple images per form, if all images are on one URL.
- Only the school name, number of participants, map title, and map description will show on the map. The remainder of the information is for us to communicate with you.
- Photo credits are required. This is especially important for the online maps (such as MapMaker Interactive, ArcGIS Online). Images taken from copyrighted sources and works must be cited.
- We will provide a link to all teachers who submit posters that will include a downloadable certificate of participation. We will also mail goodies to each teacher that submits posters, up to 1,000 teachers.

Suggestions

- Maps can be created electronically or sketched on paper or drawn in the sand. Be thoughtful and creative.
- Include the elements of a good map, in the Resources section of the [TAGE GeoWeek website](#).
- Be creative and have fun!
- Whether your class creates one map or each person creates a map, submit and share!

Contact us at tage.geography@txstate.edu or 512.245.3827 with any questions or feedback.