

# TAKS STRATEGIES

## CRITICAL THINKING

www.takswheels.com

- Read and discuss excerpts from famous speeches.
- Discuss the cultural influences of ethnic groups.
- Show examples of primary & secondary sources.
- Writing project: "The Desire for Independence."
  - Project: Find examples of bias in advertising.
  - Discuss life without freedom of speech.
  - Make history come alive! Role-play!
- Discuss the Trail of Tears.
  - Interpret information.
  - Sequence events.

### TEST SUCCESS

1. Budget time to teach test-taking skills.
2. Incorporate vertically aligned curriculum.
3. Use practice tests with machine-scorable, bubble-answer format.
4. Use cluster questions for science: Group multiple questions with a single stimulus.
5. Practice with TAKS-released tests.
6. Emphasize that science is learned through experience.

### SPECIAL NEEDS AWARENESS

1. Know which students have identified special needs.
2. Know and implement accommodations and modifications.
3. Diversify instruction; scaffold questions.
4. Be alert for vision and hearing problems.
5. Provide early intervention: tutoring, remediation, accommodations, parent contact, inform administration.

### DEBATE!

### TAKS OBJECTIVES: SOCIAL STUDIES GRADE 8

- Obj. 1: The student will demonstrate an understanding of issues and events in U.S. history.
- Obj. 2: The student will demonstrate an understanding of geographic influences on historical issues and events.
- Obj. 3: The student will demonstrate an understanding of economic and social influences on historical issues and events.
- Obj. 4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of political influences on historical issues and events.
- Obj. 5: The student will use critical-thinking skills to analyze social studies information.

# SOCIAL STUDIES GRADE 8

## HOME CONNECTIONS

Send parents information about how to increase their teen's knowledge of science and social studies.

### PARENTS, TRY THESE ACTIVITIES WITH YOUR TEEN:

- Spend time with your teen. Talk about responsible citizenship.
- Watch the news together. Talk about the weather. Talk about current events.
- Visit your teen's teachers. Ask questions about projects!
- Ask your teen to explain what he or she is learning right now. Praise your teen every day.
- Expect homework. If your teen is having problems, contact the teacher.
- Reinforce skills by having your teen read aloud, measure, read the thermometer, cook with recipes, and use a magnifying glass.
- When in the car, talk about distance, road signs, streets, cities, states, and landforms. Use roadmaps.
- Visit museums, courthouses, parks, a wildlife preserve, a machine shop, and a quarry.

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1-800-975-0054

TAKSWH SC GR8



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GEOGRAPHIC INFLUENCES

POLITICAL INFLUENCES

ECONOMIC / SOCIAL INFLUENCES

PICTURE GRAPHS / CHARTS

U.S. HISTORY

# TAKS STRATEGIES

## LIVING SYSTEMS

[www.takswheels.com](http://www.takswheels.com)

- Post student-made charts describing systems and functions.
- Make sure students can identify nucleic acid structures.
- Display student-made posters of cellular processes.
- Make sure students know how to use probability to find genotypes and phenotypes.
- Discuss how animals meet their needs.
- Review previously learned concepts.
- Illustrate osmosis and diffusion.
- Compare genetic variations.
- Map kingdoms.

### THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD DURING INVESTIGATION

1. Plan and apply investigative procedures.  
Ask well-defined questions. Formulate testable hypotheses. Select and use equipment and technology.
2. Collect data by observing and measuring.
3. Organize, analyze, evaluate, make inferences, and predict trends from direct and indirect evidence.
4. Communicate valid conclusions.
5. Construct graphs, tables, maps, and charts using tools including computers to organize, examine, and evaluate information.

### PUNNETT SQUARES!

### TAKS OBJECTIVES: SCIENCE GRADE 10

- Obj. 1: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the nature of science.
- Obj. 2: The student will demonstrate an understanding of living systems and the environment.
- Obj. 3: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the structures and properties of matter.
- Obj. 4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of motion, forces, and energy.
- Obj. 5: The student will demonstrate an understanding of earth and space systems.

# SCIENCE GRADE 10

### TOOLS FOR SCIENCE INQUIRIES

Safety equipment  
Graphing calculators  
Lever system kit  
Meter sticks  
Prisms

Optics kits  
Triple beam balances  
Pulley system kit  
Tuning fork set  
Bunsen burners

Compound microscopes  
Beakers of various sizes  
Graduated cylinders  
Aquarium  
Dissecting equipment

Petri dishes  
Insect collection kits  
Preserved specimens  
Microscope slide equipment  
DNA structure/protein synthesis kits

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MOTION, FORCES, AND ENERGY

NATURE OF SCIENCE

EVIDENCE OF ORGANISMS

MATH AND ELEM

MATTER