

Texas Act-It-Out

Follow the narration below to create an act-it-out about Texas. When your teacher says *Action!*, the actors will move, act, and speak as described. When your teacher says *Audience!*, the audience members will say “Remember the Alamo!” loudly and in unison.

Locations: Your teacher will point out the locations of Missouri and Texas on the floor map, as well as Mexico City south of the map.

Characters and starting places: Stephen F. Austin (Missouri), two American settlers/Texans (Missouri), General Santa Anna (Mexico City)

Narration

- In 1821, **Stephen F. Austin** moved to Texas to follow his father’s dream of starting a U.S. colony in this territory now controlled by Mexico. (*Action!*)
- By 1830, thousands of **American settlers** had joined Austin. Some even moved to Texas illegally. (*Action!*)
- Because of the illegal immigrants in Texas and other problems with the Americans, Mexican government officials ordered Texas closed to Americans. Some **American settlers** claimed “Unfair!” and called for revolution. (*Action!*)
- **Stephen F. Austin** calmed his fellow American settlers, now called **Texans**, and said he would travel to Mexico City to negotiate with the government. (*Action!*)
- When **Austin** arrived, he met with the new Mexican leader, **General Santa Anna**. First Austin said, “Reopen Texas.” Then he said, “Make Texas its own state.”(*Action!*)
- **Santa Anna** ignored him and jailed **Austin** for causing a rebellion. (*Action!*)
- Two years later, when **Austin** was released from jail, the **Texans** were still unhappy. They rose up in revolt. (*Action!*)
- Furious, **Santa Anna** and his army marched to Texas to crush the rebellion. (*Action!*)
- The worst battle for the Texans was at the Alamo, where every Texan was killed. This only spurred on American supporters, who flooded into Texas to help and cried . . . (*Audience!*)
- Just one month later, **Santa Anna** and his troops were sleeping in the afternoon near a river. (*Action!*)
- Suddenly, **Santa Anna** and his troops were awoken by the charge of the Texans. (*Audience!*) (*Action!*)
- The **Texans** won the battle and captured **Santa Anna**. (*Action!*)
- Mexican rule in Texas ended, and Texas became an independent country. Many wondered for how long, but for now the **Texans** cheered their victory and the Lone Star Republic. (*Action!*)