

TEXAS HERITAGE MUSIC FOUNDATION
TEXAS HERITAGE LIVING HISTORY WEEKEND 2004

Suggested classroom lessons and activities

- A) September 8 is the birthday of the Father of Country Music and former Kerrville resident, Jimmie Rodgers! Write a letter to Jimmie Rodgers (or any of the performers you visited) and explain why you enjoyed the performance. Since Jimmie is associated with our local Kerrville heritage, you might ask him (in your letter) questions about his house, his family, his music. Use the enclosed photo page for the "Jimmie" letter.
- B) Go to the library and research the background of the Comanche Indian in Fredericksburg. Why do you suppose this treaty between the Comanche and German community is the only treaty not broken by the white community?
- C) Put a group together and learn some cowboy songs or some Jimmie Rodgers songs. Enrich all history lessons with an exposure to the music of the era.
- D) (Individual/group/class project.) Interview someone in your community. Ask them about life in the community, education in the community, the arts in the community. Be sure you get the person to tell bits of his or her own story. Use a tape recorder (oral history), and then transcribe the tape. Create a notebook on community members, using photos and excerpts from the interviews.
- E) When you return to your school after your experience with Living History Day, write a story inspired by one of the performers/activities. Use the following questionnaire:
 - 1. What was most interesting to you?
 - 2. What caused you to be curious, to want to know more?
 - 3. What suggestions do you have for the event in the year 2001?
 - 4. Describe something new to you?
 - 5. What performer told you things which were very familiar to you?
 - 6. What is "educational" about this kind of event?
 - 7. List five specific ideas/facts you remember from your visit to Living History Day.
 - 8. Write a letter to the THMF and tell us what you liked, what you didn't like and suggestions you have.
- F) (Timed sharing project.) Pick a buddy and discuss the event. Each person takes five minutes and shares everything he/she remembers.

For suggestions and/or questions, please call 830-792-1945, fax 830-367-4888 or e-mail kat@maverickbbs.com or www.texasheritagemusic.org. We would love to have a group of teachers generate this package next year—Living History Weekend 2005. Please let our office know if you are interested in participating.

THMF is open to membership and exists in this community because of volunteer efforts and local contributions. If you are interested in being involved, please call or email.