

UPDATED C|C|R PROJECT TASKS:

Page 2 | CATTLE BRAND

- **DESIGN & DRAW YOUR CATTLE BRAND** | Must be at least 3" X 3" in size.
- **"READ" YOUR CATTLE BRAND** | Write how you pronounce your brand.
- **EXPLAIN YOUR CATTLE BRAND** | Write at least three (3) complete sentences explaining why you chose your design.



Page 3 | IMPACT ON TEXAS HISTORY

- **WRITE THE FOLLOWING PROMPT:** *Which of these elements had the most impact on Texas History: Cotton, Cattle, or Railroads? Why?*
- Write at least five (5) complete sentences explaining your response. Your response should cite at least three (3) reasons or examples from your research/reading.

BRANDING CATTLE

HOW TO DESIGN AND READ A BRAND

- Read brands from left to right, top to bottom, and outside to inside.
- Symbols, numbers and capital letters can be used. Letters and numbers are read as letters and numbers. A brand that looks like "51A" would be read "fifty-one A."
- Simple outlines of familiar objects, such as a quarter moon, sun, diamond, triangle, or heart, can be used. Often these relate to an owner's name or interests.
- "-" is read as bar; "_____" is read as rail; "/" is read as slash.
- The position of the letters determines how the brand is read. For example:
 - **Tumbling** Letter is turned partially on its face or back.
 - **Crazy** Letter is upside down.
 - **Reverse** Letter is backwards.
 - **Running** Letter is cursive.
 - **Lazy** Letter is on its side in a horizontal position.
 - **Rocking** Letter is placed so the lowest part touches the inside of a curve.
- Dashes can be added at the tops or bottoms of the letters to indicate wings or feet.
 - **Flying** Dashes are placed at the top of the left and right of the letter.
 - **Walking** Dashes are placed at the bottom of the letter.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  Running W |  Hooked Y |  Broken slash |  Arrow |
|  Long W |  Bradded Y |  Broken reverse slash |  Broken arrow |
|  Tumbling right R |  Barbed Y |  Quarter circle |  Bow and arrow |
|  Tumbling left R |  Forked Y |  Half circle |  Rocking chair |
|  Reverse R |  Y up Y down |  Circle |  Dollar sign |
|  Crazy R |  KM KM connected |  Double circle |  Anchor |
|  Crazy reverse R |  KKK Triple K |  Half box |  Broken heart |
|  Lazy left down R |  Triple K connected |  Box |  Hay hook |
|  Lazy left up R |  Bar |  Bench |  Key |
|  Lazy right down R |  Double bar |  Triangle |  Spur |
|  Lazy right up R |  Broken bar |  Half diamond |  Stirrup |
|  Rocking 7 |  Rail |  Diamond |  Sunrise |
|  Swinging 7 |  Double rail |  Diamond and a half |  Horse track |
|  Flying 7 |  Stripes |  Rafters |  Bull head |
|  Walking 7 |  Slash |  Open A |  Hat |
|  Dragging 7 |  Reverse slash |  Goose egg |  Turkey track |
| | |  Dot | |



pig pen



pitchfork



lazy nine



running F



flying U



rocking H



box T



O-in-a-hole



T-down-bar



seven up



two-pole-pumpkin



barbecue



W lazy five



circle diamond



spade



turkey track

BRANDING CATTLE

Vocabulary:

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Brand | A permanent identification mark usually burned into the hide of an animal which is used to show ownership. |
| Mavericks | Unbranded animals. Their ownership may be questioned when they are found separated from the herd. |
| Rustler | Someone who steals cattle or other livestock. Rustlers may brand unmarked cattle with their own brand or alter any existing brand. |

History of Branding

☞ A **brand** is a mark burned into an animal's skin. Owners use brands, which never wear off, to identify their animals. The practice of branding is ancient. Some Egyptian tomb paintings at least 4,000 years old show scenes of roundups and cattle branding.

☞ Burning an identifying mark into the hide of an animal was the only method of marking that lasted the life of the animal, until the invention of the tattoo. The practice of branding came to the New World with the Spaniards, who brought the first cattle to New Spain (Mexico).

☞ Cattle are usually branded when they are calves. Brands are usually placed on the hindquarters, hip, shoulder or side. Brands must be at least 3 inches in length and width. Smaller brands may be difficult to read from a distance.

☞ Branding is done during spring and fall roundups. On the open range, cattle from different ranches often grazed together. During roundups, cowboys from the different ranches would work together to drive cattle to a central location for branding. Older cows were already marked. Calves followed their mothers and were marked with the mother's brand.

☞ It takes several cowboys working together to brand each calf. Branding irons, which are long metal rods with identification figures on the end, are heated in a fire and then used to burn through hair to permanently mark the hide of the animal. When cattle are branded today, vaccinations are given at the same time to prevent certain diseases.






☞ Brand registration did not begin until the 1870s or 1880s. During this time, millions of cattle were moved on cattle drives from Texas to Kansas to be shipped by rail to provide food for those living in the Eastern part of the United States. Cattle were driven to Kansas because railroads did not come through Texas at that time.

☞ The land was not fenced, so it was not uncommon for cattle to wander away from the herd and become lost. Also, cattle might be stolen by **rustlers**. The brand would indicate the identity of the owner.

☞ Unmarked cattle are often called **mavericks**, after Sam Maverick, a Texas lawyer and politician. At one time, Mr. Maverick received cattle instead of cash to settle a fee for legal services. Although he hired a cowboy to brand his cattle, many of them were never marked. Over time, many of his cattle were stolen and marked with different owner's brands.

☞ Unlike most states, Texas cattle brands are registered at the county level.

☞ Brand designs include combinations of letters, numerals, and other symbols, such as circles or boxes. Simple drawings of common subjects such as a heart or diamond are often used. Because of the numerous brands already registered, new brands often contain 3 characters. Some examples of brands are shown on the back.

| | | | |
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|  Reverse R |  Y up Y down |  Circle |  Dollar sign |
|  Crazy R |  KM connected |  Double circle |  Anchor |
|  Crazy reverse R |  Triple K |  Half box |  Broken heart |
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|  Lazy left up R |  Bar |  Bench |  Key |
|  Lazy right down R |  Double bar |  Triangle |  Spur |
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pig pen



pitchfork



lazy nine



running F



flying U



rocking H



box T



O-in-a-hole



T-down-bar



seven up



two-pole-pumpkin



barbecue



W lazy five



circle diamond



spade



turkey track