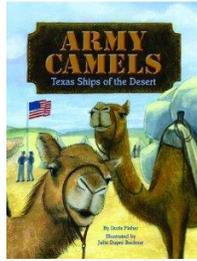


# **TEACHING GUIDE**

Developed by Doris Fisher



## ***ARMY CAMELS: TEXAS SHIPS OF THE DESERT*** ***Published by Pelican Publishing*** Written by Doris Fisher, art by Julie Buckner

### **Before reading, show the book's cover**

What do you think this book is about?

What animals are on the cover? How many are there?

What is the man doing on the cover? What type of man is he?

Where do you think he lives?

### ***READ THE TEXT, THEN DISCUSS THESE DETAILS.***

#### **Language Arts Suggestions**

The camels came from North Africa to the United States. What ocean did they sail across?

How is the climate in Southwest Texas like the land the camels came from?

Why did the ship sway back and forth? Have you ever been seasick or motion sick?

What is a gangplank? How is it used?

How did the camels leave the ship to go ashore?

The townspeople had never seen a camel. What did they think about them?

If you rode on a camel, how would you feel when it walked?

### **Math Suggestions**

The camels sailed to the United States from February 15, 1856 to May 13, 1856. How many months is that?

Use a calendar and count how many days they sailed on the ocean. And in 1856, February had 29 days!

Two separate shiploads of camels sailed to the United States. The first load had 34 camels and the second load had 41. How many total camels arrived in Texas?

Major Wayne's soldiers strapped 4 bales of hay on a kneeling camel. Each bale weighed 314 pounds. How many pounds did the camel carry when he stood up and walked?

The first camels lived on the ranch from May 13, 1856. They left on June 4, 1856 to walk to their permanent home at Camp Verde, Texas. Use a calendar and figure how long they stayed at the ranch.

### **Science Suggestions**

There are two different types of camels. One type is dromedary and the other type is Bactrian. What's the difference?

Why would the nostrils of a camel's nose be able to entirely close?

What makes up a camel's hump?

Describe a desert climate.

One time the camels explored the Texas Big Bend area. Find it on a map. What are some of the land features found there?

### **Art Suggestions**

Draw or paint a picture of a camel with a saddle.

Use clay to make camels and cactus.

Draw or paint the ship the camels rode to the United States.

With a Texas map, draw the route the camels took from Indianola to Camp Verde. Indianola no longer exists, but they landed in Matagorda Bay.