

## **Nacogdoches Timeline**

**Subject:** Texas history

**Grade level:** 4 and 7

**Rationale:** Students create a timeline to understand how long people have lived in the area near Nacogdoches, Texas.

**Objectives:** Social Studies 7.2 (A), (B); 7.21 (C), (H); 7.22 (C); 4.1 (A), (C); 4.22 (C), (F)

**Lesson Duration:** One 45 minute class period

**Materials:** Student handout sheets, pens, pencils, ruler, computer access

**Activity:** Student work in pairs

**Step1:** Put students into pairs.

**Step 2:** Students use handout to create timeline, either by hand or by using a free online timeline maker such as the one at [www.readwritethink.org](http://www.readwritethink.org).

**Step 3:** When timelines are complete, students answer three synthesis questions, either in writing or orally.

**Closure:** Ask students to share their answers to the synthesis questions out loud to the whole class.

**Modification:** Use fewer items on the timeline.

**Assessment:** Completed timeline and appropriate answers to synthesis questions.

**Extension:** Students can read more about archeology at Naconiche Creek and the Caddo at [www.Texasbeyondhistory.net](http://www.Texasbeyondhistory.net). Additional lesson plans on the Caddo are also located here.

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## Student Handout

### From Naconiche to Nacogdoches: Making a Timeline of Human History

1. Work with a partner to make a timeline about the Nacogdoches area.
2. You can draw a straight line on paper with a ruler to make a timeline, or use a free online timeline maker, such as at [www.readwritethink.org](http://www.readwritethink.org).
3. If you are drawing by hand, first draw a long, vertical, straight line down the middle of your paper using a ruler. Label the bottom of the line 11,000 B.C. Label the top of the line A.D. 2029. B.C. means “before Christ”, and A.D. means “After Death”—or after the death of Christ. This is one way to count long periods of time.
4. Make a short horizontal line going out from the long vertical line to mark each event. For each event, write the date on the left side of the short horizontal line, and the title of the event on the right side. Do not write the comments on the timeline. They are additional description just for your information.
5. Place the following events on the timeline in correct chronological order, from the oldest to the most recent:

**2,900 B.C.**

#### **Hunter-gatherers**

*Comments:* People who hunt deer and gather hickory nuts camp along Naconiche Creek in northern Nacogdoches County. Archeological evidence includes projectile points, deer bones, and camp debris.

**11,000 B.C.**

#### **Clovis mammoth hunters**

*Comments:* Ancient mammoth-hunting people come through the Nacogdoches area. Archeologists have found scattered Clovis spear points as evidence of this.

**A.D. 1716-1773**

#### **Mission period**

*Comments:* During this time, the Spanish built several missions in the area such as Mission Nuestra Señora de los Dolores de los Ais in the present-day town of San Augustine. All of the missions in East Texas were abandoned by 1773.

**A.D. 1542**

#### **Spanish explorers in area**

*Comments:* Men with De Soto’s expedition from Spain meet the Caddo near Nacogdoches.

**A.D. 800-1000**

**Caddo villagers grow corn**

*Comments:* Caddo people living in villages begin to grow corn near Naconiche Creek. Charred corn cobs have been found as evidence.

**A.D. 400**

**People first grow squash**

*Comments:* People living at Naconiche Creek grow gardens with squash. Archeologists found charred fragments of squash rind and squash seeds as evidence of this.

**A.D. 1690-93**

**First Spanish mission in area**

*Comments:* Spanish priests built Mission San Francisco do los Tejas near the present-day town of Weches, Texas.

**A.D. 1820**

**Fredonia Rebellion**

*Comments:* Haden Edwards attempts to break northeast Texas away from Mexico, but is unsuccessful. He uses the Old Stone Fort in Nacogdoches as his headquarters.

**A.D. 2000**

**Nacogdoches is 221 years old**

*Comments:* How old are you?

**A.D. 1200**

**Washington Square Mound Center**

*Comments:* Caddo villagers build earthen mounds for ceremonies in what is today the city of Nacogdoches. They also grew corn, beans, and squash and lived in large thatched houses.

**A.D. 1846**

**Texas joins the U.S.**

*Comments:* Texas becomes a state of the United States.

**A.D. 1836**

**Texas independence from Mexico**

*Comments:* Sam Houston defeats Santa Anna at the Battle of San Jacinto.

**A.D. 1936**

**Old Stone Fort rebuilt**

*Comments:* The Texas Centennial Commission rebuilds the old structure. The centennial celebrated 100 years since Texas won independence from Mexico.

**A.D. 1979**

**Nacogdoches is 200 years old**

*Comments:* Happy Birthday!

**300 B.C.**

**Mossy Grove people**

*Comments:* People living at Naconiche Creek begin making pottery. Archeologists found pottery fragments as evidence.

**A.D. 1845**

**Nacogdoches University**

*Comments:* The Republic of Texas grants a charter for a university in Nacogdoches. The original building still stands in town.

**A.D. 1779**

**Gil Ybarbo brings settlers**

*Comments:* Ybarbo established the first city government in Nacogdoches and builds the Old Stone Fort as his house.

**A.D. 2029**

**Nacogdoches is 250 years old.**

*Comments:* You will never be this old!

6. Answer these questions:

- a. How long have people lived in the Nacogdoches area?
- b. How old is the city of Nacogdoches today?