

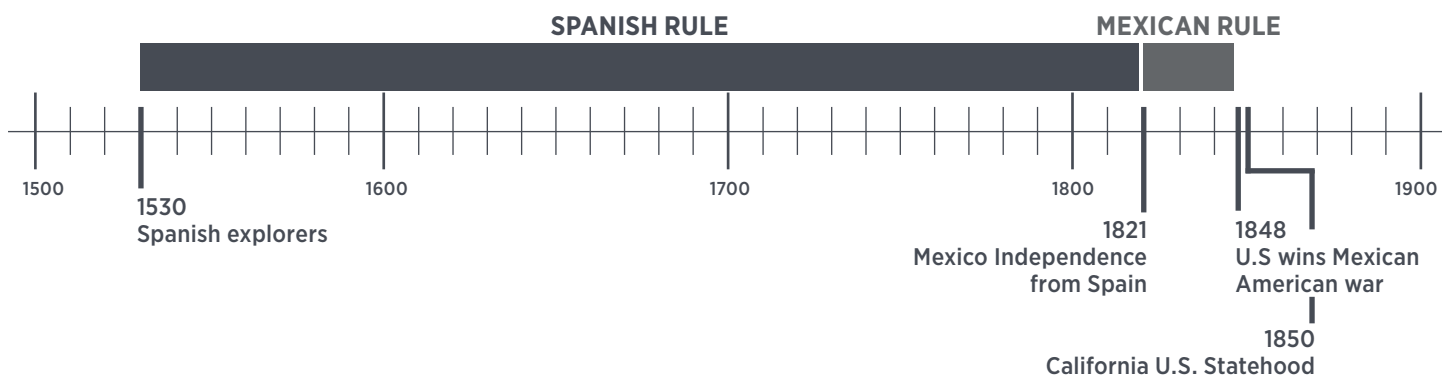
# The Path to Statehood: Texas, Oregon, and California

## California Statehood

As you read, circle the countries/people that claimed control of California.

Spanish soldiers arrived in California in the 1530s, later claiming the area for Spain. In 1821, Mexicans overthrew the Spanish government in their War for Independence and took over governing California. The ruling government changed again in 1848 when the United States won a war against Mexico (Mexican American War). Mexico was forced to give up California and other lands to the U.S.

In 1850, California became the 31st state.



**Task B** - Using the information you read about California, answer the questions that summarize who lived in and ruled California prior to United States statehood and why the land was important to the U.S.



Why did the U.S. want California? *Pick 2 resources found in California and draw them on the map.*

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Name two groups of people who lived in California.

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Which two countries was California previously a part of?

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# The Path to Statehood: Texas, Oregon, and California

## Oregon Statehood

As you read, circle the countries/people that claimed control of Oregon.

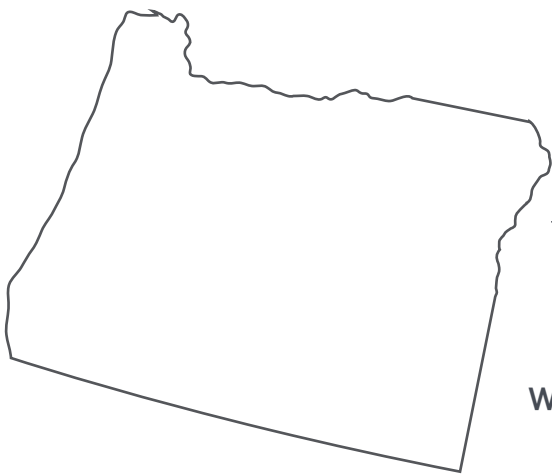
Great Britain and the U.S. claimed control of a region that included modern day Oregon, Washington, and part of western Montana. In 1818, they agreed to **occupy** (live in) Oregon together, but that didn't last long. Soon, the U.S. wanted all of Oregon, and Great Britain signed the Oregon Treaty in 1846 giving up the territory to the U.S.

The U.S officially recognized Oregon as a U.S. Territory in 1848. Oregon became the 33rd state in 1859



**Task B** - Using the information you read about Oregon, answer the questions that summarize who lived in and controlled Oregon prior to United States statehood and why the land was important to the U.S.

Why did the U.S. want Oregon? *Pick 2 resources found in Oregon and draw them on the map.*



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Name two groups of people that lived in Oregon.

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Which countries claimed Oregon?

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# The Path to Statehood: Texas, Oregon, and California

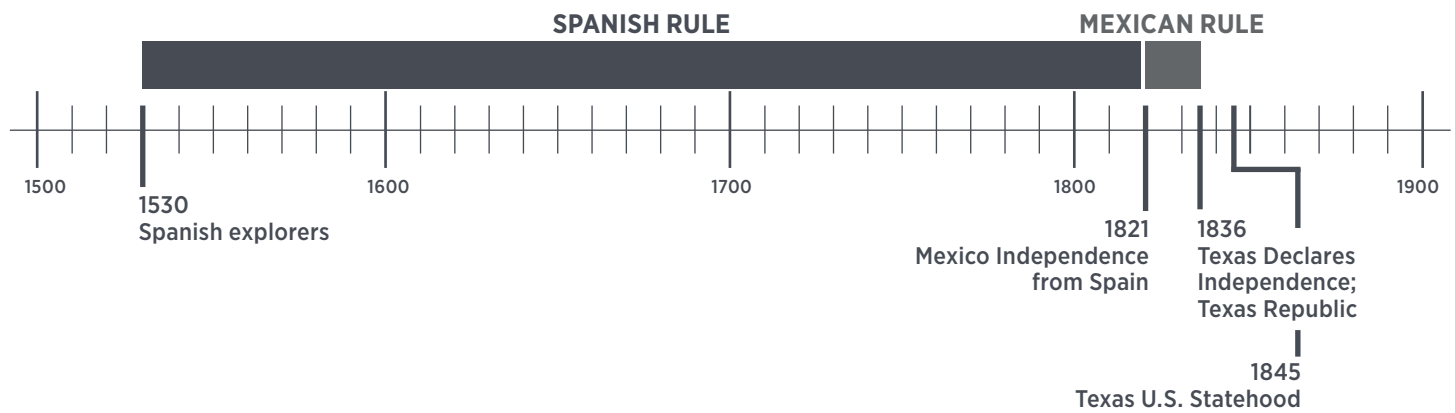
## Texas Statehood

*As you read, circle the countries/people that claimed control of Texas.*

In the mid-1500s Spanish rulers sent soldiers to explore the Texas area, and in 1731 they claimed it as Spanish colony. By 1821, Mexicans in Mexico and Texas won a war for independence from Spain and the area became part of the new country of Mexico. Mexicans and American settlers living in Texas disagreed with many of Mexican laws, including the **abolition** (end) of slavery. They fought a war for independence from Mexico, won, and in 1836 created the Republic of Texas.

Wanting the protection of the larger U.S., the Republic of Texas asked the U.S. to become a state. Many Americans opposed adding a new slave-holding state\*, but in 1845, the U.S. **annexed** (added to) Texas and made it the 28th state.

*\*At the time, states were added to the United States as either states that allowed slavery (slave-holding state) or states that did not allow slavery (slave free states)*



**Task B -** Using the information you read about Texas, answer the questions that summarize who lived in and ruled Texas prior to United States statehood and why the land was important to the U.S.



Why did the U.S. want Texas? *Pick 2 resources found in Texas and draw them on the map.*

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Name two groups of people that lived in Texas.

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Which countries claimed Texas?

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# *The Path to Statehood: Texas, Oregon, and California*

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## **PART 2 - Connect your learning about to your own state today.**

Complete the tasks below for your state today. If your state is California, Texas or Oregon, remember this activity is about your state today.

**Task A** - Use your own knowledge and any extra research to and write down “Special Things About Your State” today in the spaces below.

### **Special Things About My State**

My state is \_\_\_\_\_

It became a state in \_\_\_\_\_

My state is special because of its location. My state is located \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

My state is special because of its natural resources. Two natural resources in my state are

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

My state is special because of the people who live here. The first people who lived in my state are

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Other people who make my state special are \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

My state has its own unique history. An important fact from my state’s history is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I like my state because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# *The Path to Statehood: Texas, Oregon, and California*

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**Task B** - Draw an outline map of your state. In the map, copy the **Special Things About My State** you researched in **Task A**. See examples with the California, Oregon, and Texas maps and information in **Part I**.

