Teaching students how to think, not what to think, about the environment.

To kick off the environmental exchange of information that students can make with students in different areas, a little information about their states’ flora and fauna symbols makes a great beginning. These symbols also tell others something about the species and geology of the state. Texas is a large state with many different ecosystems. Most ecosystems are defined by their climate which includes the average temperature, precipitation and plant life. Students need to identify the ecosystem in which they live to give the person receiving their environmental exchange box even more detailed information.

Some geography basics about the state:

- Total land area: 262,017 square miles
- Coast line: 367 miles
- Inland water: 4,790 square miles
- Highest elevation: Guadalupe Peat at 8,749 feet
- Lowest elevation: sea level
- State animal: Nine-banded Armadillo
- Tree: Pecan
- Find more under the State Symbols USA link.

Links
State Symbols USA
http://www.statesymbolsusa.org/Texas/state_symbols.html

Texas On Line
http://www.texas-on-line.com/graphic/history.htm

Project Learning Tree
https://www.plt.org/prek-8-activity-20—environmental-exchange-box