



# Frisco: Past Present and Future

## Pathfinder for Helping Kids Understand their Community

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In order to develop knowledge of our nation, state and community, we must understand the functions of government, history and economy at each level, as well as explore our own contributions and impact as a citizen. This pathfinder was developed to place resources for developing a sense of belonging to our nation, state and community into the hands of teachers, librarians, parents and students. Although it is designed to be used by students for a government or community study, it includes a variety of resources for teachers and parents as well. Whether you need homework help, teacher resources or students activities, you will find that information at your fingertips.

This pathfinder consists of websites for national, state and local governments. It provides information on sites about communities, the ways that children can contribute through volunteerism and using map skill. Finally, it includes information specifically found for the community of Frisco - where the unit originated. It is not an exhaustive list, but a starting place. Although it does contain specific information about the community of Frisco, the rest of the resources listed within are very useful to any parent or school member.

## National Government

### [Ben's Guide to the U.S. Government](http://bensguide.gpo.gov/)

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Contains information on all areas of the government: branches, elections, U.S. symbols, citizenship and more. Includes games, activities and parent/teacher information and links curriculum materials found at numerous government agencies, state governor and congressmen. Extremely user friendly for both children and adults. Divided into four age groups [ K-2, 3-6, 6-8, 9-12] for easy access.

### [U.S. Government](http://pittsford.monroe.edu/jefferson/califieri/government/govframe.html)

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Hard to read links because of dark background, however contains great links to government departments, white house and president. Provides detailed information on government branches, documents, checks and balances and more. Contains student activities and projects.

### [White House for Kids](http://www.whitehouse.gov/kids/)

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/kids/>

Site has brief pages of historical moments, kids and pets that have lived in the

White House, history of the house and tours of the White House rooms including pictures.

### [Explore D.C.](#)

*<http://www.exploredc.org/index/phd>*

Contains the history of sites in the capital city, information on the presidents, first ladies and government. Links to lesson plan for teachers.

## State Government

### [DiscoverySchool: Government](#)

*<http://school.discovery.com/homeowrkhelp/worldbook/atozgeography/t/552660.html>*

Very well written and organized site explaining state government – legislature, constitution, courts, politics. Has brief section on local government. Also, has pages on Texas history, economy, land and more. Unique feature of this site is that it contains biographies on well-known people; information on major cities that includes culture, economy, government; physical features; and bibliography of related print materials. Not only does it provide this information about Texas, but on all the other states as well. Very kid-friendly.

### [Texas Senate Kids](#)

*<http://www.senate.state.tx.us/kids>*

Contains quality information and activities designed to help children learn about Texas and its government easily divided into three parts: “For Kids” which has information about state government, the capital, Texas trivia and glossary of terms; “Senate, Jr.” which has picture games about Texas and its government for young children to do with help of a parent; and “Parents/Teachers” which explains the site, has lesson plans, and links to the branches of government and sites that explain the steps in the legislative process. Unique feature is the link to the handbook for Texas Citizenship.

### [Governor’s Kid Pages](#)

*<http://www.governor.state.tx.us/kids/index.html>*

Contains some outdated information on the former governor (Bush), but also includes Texas facts, and a reading list of books on Texas homes, architecture and more.

### [Office of the Governor](#)

*<http://www.governor.state.tx.us>*

Official state government website for Rick Perry. Provides information of the governor, first lady and state. Does have children’s links, but most of the site is designed for adults.

### [State of Texas Web Site](#)

*<http://www.state.tx.us>*

Official website for the state of Texas. Contains information on education, government, recreation, communities and business. Designed for adult use – students will need help utilizing this site.

### [Net State: Texas](#)

<http://netstate.com/states/>

Provides information on the history, symbols, important people and almanac for the state of Texas. Designed for use by adults - students may need help navigating, but the information is straight forward and easy to use.

## Local Government

### [Ben's Guide to the U.S. Government](#)

<http://bensguide.gpo.gov/>

Contains short section on local government. See entry under national government for full description of this website.

### [Discovery School](#)

<http://school.discovery.com/homeowrkhelp/worldbook/atozgeography/t/552660.html>

Contains short section on local government. See entry under national government for full description of this website.

## Community

### [Kids and Community](#)

<http://www.planning.org/kidsandcommunity/>

Website created by city planners. Describes process of city planning and introduces two city planners. Contains activities for children: creating crazy city stories while taking into consideration the aspects of naming a community or designing a travel brochure, city scavenger hunts to familiarize children with their own community, book reviews of books about community life written by students, and "how to" write a Cinquain about your own city.

### [Kids Next Door](#)

<http://www.hud.gov/kids/kids.html>

Website divided into three categories: *People* – which provides information on volunteering, organizations and how to help the homeless; *Places* - animated field trips to community places such as parks and links to pages about recycling, saving money, pollution, career matching and more; *Things* – activities to build your own community, scrambled "city words" and scavenger hunt of your community. Geared for younger children (K-2) but providing quality information and links appropriate for older students.

### [Planet Youth](#)

<http://www.codetalk.fed.us/planet/planet.html>

Information about local governments around the world designed mostly about Native Americans but has quality information about community life. Includes parent pages and educational resources.

## Volunteerism for Children

### Kids Can Make a Difference

<http://kids.maine.org/>

Volunteer opportunities for kids. Includes ways kids can impact their own communities and stories of kids who have made a difference.

### Kids Care Clubs

<http://kidscare.org/kidscare/index.htm>

Provides information on developing compassion and volunteerism for kids. Includes a "project of the month" and information about creating your own club.

### Nickelodeon Big Help

[http://nick.com/all\\_nick/specials/bighelp/home:jhtml](http://nick.com/all_nick/specials/bighelp/home:jhtml)

Contains information about projects for kids coming to your area from Big Help. Includes how to order your own Big Help Service Project kit to improve your community.

## Mapping

### DiscoverySchool: Maps

<http://school.discovery.com/homeowrkhelp/worldbook/atozgeography/t/343260.html>

Includes information on types of maps, reading a map, how maps are made, history of maps. Related links for information on equator, latitude and longitude, atlas and more. See entry above under state government for more information about this site.

### Maps and Globes

<http://pittsford.monroe.edu/Schools/Jefferson/CALFIERI/Maps&Globes/MapsGlobesFrame.html>

Website designed to teach basic concepts of maps and globes to students in elementary school. Learn different types of maps and their features. Includes links, glossary, interactive quizzes.

### Map Adventures: Nikki's Adventure

<http://www.usgs.gov/education/learnweb/MA/#nikki>

An online teaching packet for helping students understand and use maps. Includes downloadable lessons and student handouts.

### Road Trip Across Texas

<http://library.thinkquest.org/18135/>

Includes information about major cities within Texas - mileage between cities, temperatures, Mayor's name and a city comparison chart. Website design by a student for other students.

### Tex and Dot's Kid's Page

<http://www.dot.state.tx.us/kidsonly/TexasPg/Texas.html>

Contains travel maps of Texas, regional information, historical information about cities and capitol, Texas facts and symbols. Includes teacher links to related sites. Very kid-friendly.

### [Texas Maps](#)

[http://www.lib.utexas.edu/Lib/PCL/Map\\_collection/Texas\\_detailed.html](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/Lib/PCL/Map_collection/Texas_detailed.html)

Collections of Texas Maps – historical, city, state, parks, thematic. Site designed for use by adults.

### [Frisco Texas Resource Guide](#)

<http://www.pe.net/~rksnow/txcountyfrisco.htm>

Gives fast facts about city. Links to Washington DC - tells mileage between the two cities. Gives latitude and longitude of Frisco, population and more.

### [Frisco Texas Links](#)

<http://www.come2dallas.com/frisco.htm>

Maps of Frisco, information on nearby employers, links to Chamber of Commerce and School District

## [Frisco](#)

### [Live, Work, Play & Grow in Frisco](#)

<http://ci.frisco.tx.us>

Has four main pages with numerous links: *Live* - links to community resources, police department, courts, utilities; *Work* – Chamber of Commerce, economic development, employment; *Play* – parks, recreation, Superdome and; and *Grow* – education, history, services

### [Cyber Space Neighborhood of Frisco Texas](#)

<http://www.friscotx.com>

Informative site with numerous links to local newspaper and magazine, Chamber of Commerce, Frisco Independent School District and more.

### [Frisco Texas Resource Guide](#)

<http://www.pe.net/~rksnow/txcountyfrisco.htm>

Gives fast facts about city. See entry above in mapping for more detailed description of this site.

### [Frisco Texas On-Line Community](#)

<http://www.frisco-online.com/>

Numerous community resource links including the Chamber. Main feature – contains links to news articles on prominent members of Frisco history and current events.

### [Frisco Texas Links](#)

<http://www.come2dallas.com/frisco.htm>

Includes information about nearby employers. See entry under mapping for full description of this website.

### [Frisco Enterprise Homepage](#)

<http://www.frisocnews.com>

Frisco's online sources of current news.