

# RAISE<sup>up</sup> Texas Is Here!



## What is **RAISE<sup>up</sup>** *Texas*?

**RAISE<sup>up</sup> Texas** is a targeted, whole-school approach to improving student achievement in middle school. Every teacher in every subject uses proven tools to help *all* students “learn how to learn” and think critically so they can be ready for college and career success. Six schools in Central Texas have already started using the model, and the results are amazing: in every grade, struggling learners in **RAISE<sup>up</sup> Texas** schools gained more than 10 times as many points on post-tests than other students across the nation!

This year, your child’s school will participate in **RAISE<sup>up</sup> Texas** by using the Strategic Instruction Model (SIM), which comes from the University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning. SIM is a way of teaching that helps middle-school students build deep conceptual knowledge and critical thinking skills. It also helps them to express themselves clearly in writing. The SIM approach will be used across all of your child’s courses, so he or she can use these new skills in every class.

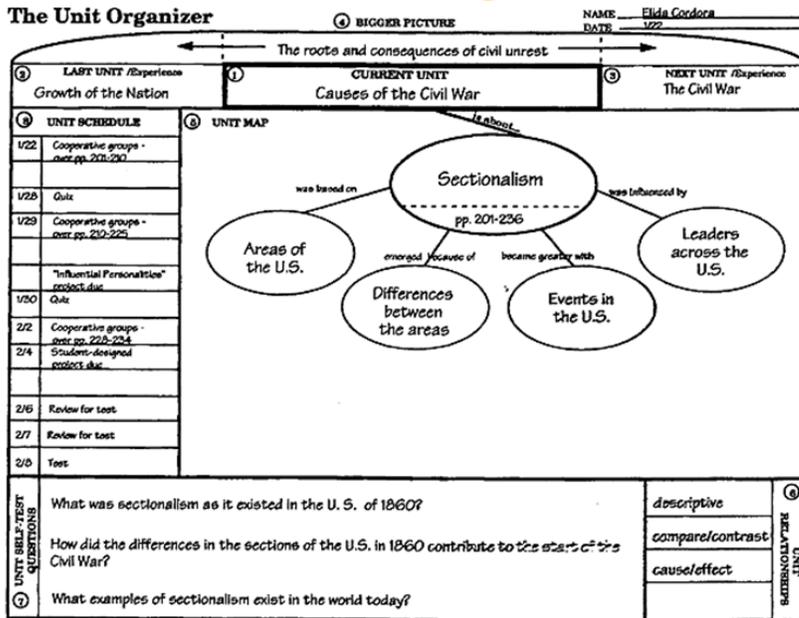
## What Will My Child Learn?

## How Will My Child Learn?

Your child will be using Content Enhancement Routines (CERs) in each class. Teachers will use these routines to teach content in ways that help *all* students understand and remember important information. CERs help teachers identify the most important information, then present it in an engaging and easy-to-learn way. This year, your child will be using the CERs called the *Unit Organizer* and *FRAME* routines.

**Keep reading on the back to learn how you can help your child at home!**

# How Can I Help?



Each of your child's teachers will use Unit Organizers to show students how each unit fits with the others and to give them a clear idea of what they should know and be able to do. You can help your child by reading each organizer so you know what he or she will be learning and when assignments are due. Unit Organizers are also a good source of practice questions and topics for flashcards.

Your child's teachers will use the FRAME routine when they need to teach a large amount of information and show how it relates together. There are several activities your child can do at home using the FRAME:

- Put the "is about" statement into his/her own words.
- Make flash cards with main idea on the front and details on the back.
- Write a complete sentence out of each set of main ideas and details.
- Draw pictures that go with the main ideas and details.

**The FRAME Routine**

Key Topic

is about...

Main idea

Main idea

Main idea

Essential details

So What? (What's important to understand about this?)

The **RAISE<sup>UP</sup> Texas** program is led by E3 Alliance, an education collaborative that works to support schools across Central Texas. It uses the Strategic Instruction Model, which was developed by the University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning. To learn more about the program, please visit the following websites:

- <http://raiseuptexas.org/>
- <http://kucrl.org/sim/>
- <http://e3alliance.org/category/topic/initiative-raiseup-texas/>

