

**Hugh F. Wynn** is the creator and presenter of the 4th Grade Social Studies Assembly Program, *“How Windmills and Barbed Wire Helped Win the West.”* He is the author of the series of three Dime Novels that are the centerpiece of the **TEXAS WATER -- Origins and Destinations** science and social studies curriculum, and also wrote and narrates the program’s *Texas Rivers* DVD. Wynn -- and his grandson, Henry -- are featured in the SaveWaterTexas music video about the Texas WaterHog, *“The Ballad of Hog Holler.”*

After a distinguished business career, Hugh authored several books of historical fiction, including *West of the Cross Timbers*, a frontier/western novel which recounts the tragic demise of a way of life in North Texas.

One of eight siblings and raised on a farm in Oklahoma, Wynn is passionate about using water and other natural resources more efficiently, and writes extensively on the topic. His deep baritone voice is memorable, and he’s getting used to the nickname, “Cowboy.”

**For additional information about scheduling the 4th Grade Assembly, please contact:**

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# How Windmills and Barbed Wire Helped Win the West



**A 4th Grade Social Studies  
Texas Frontier  
Assembly Program**

**Presented at no cost  
to teachers or the school.**



## EVERYONE LOVES COWBOYS!

Whether you are eight or eighty, there is something about the cowboy mystique that has captivated folks for more than a century. We all like watching movies or reading about cowboy heroes. In fact, one of the most important periods of Texas history includes a relatively brief, but exciting time of Longhorn cattle and the legendary men who captured them, and drove them to market.



Following the American Civil War, many eastern families packed their belongings and moved to Texas in search of land and new homesteads. The railroad was moving west, as well. Coincidentally, a series of seemingly unrelated events were on a collision course



that would leave a permanent “brand” on the State’s rich heritage. It is into this period in time -- the late 1800’s -- that we transport today’s students for an up-close look at cattle drives,

barbed wire fences, windmills, cowboys and how they all came together to help win the west.

Created in the pattern of the successful Save Water Texas Second Grade Assembly program, the new fourth grade program -- *‘How Windmills and Barbed Wire Helped Win the West’*-- is first-class “**edu-tainment**” featuring a skilled narrator, a series of historical display ‘stations’, some hands-on learning activities, and take-

away materials to punctuate the experience.

The Assembly is aligned with the state’s Social Studies TEKS for 4th grade, and is conducted in “the round.” After the interactive presentation, students are invited to rotate for a closer inspection of the historical displays:

- Small windmill and how it works
- Barbed wire fence segment
- Student-sized Chuck Wagon, and on-the-trail cooking “supplies”
- Cowboy saddle bags, rope
- Cattle trail map
- Texas Cattle brand chart
- Actual cattle brands, and more.



One of the things that make this Assembly program unique is that the highlighted historical events are inextricably tied to the availability of WATER in frontier Texas. The critical connections are identified, explained, and linked to the importance of preserving and protecting our finite water resources a century later. It is this exploration and connection to today’s way of life that elevate this Assembly to a “must have” educational resource for 4th grade youngsters.

Please contact SaveWaterTexas to reserve your school’s Assembly today...

***lsmth@savewatertexas.com***

