The word "calaboose" comes from the Spanish word calabozo, which means dungeon. It was a small building usually made of wood, used as a jail in small towns throughout Texas in the 1800’s. The typical prisoner in a calaboose was there for drunkenness or rowdy behavior. The calaboose was used up until the late 1940’s.

Where in town do you think the calaboose was built? There was no electricity nor running water in the calaboose. Do you think it was comfortable staying in a calaboose?

Create your own miniature calaboose using items from around your house, such as cardboard, popsicle sticks, toothpicks, and glue.