

Why We Remember

Most Texans call their state by one name—Texas. However, Texans have always used different names for different parts of the state. Some names, such as East Texas, borrow words from the compass. Others refer to special places or landforms. For example, the Valley is a shortened term for *Rio Grande Valley*. Geographers, too, have given special names to the four major regions of Texas. These four regions share land features with other parts of North America.



Map and Globe Skills

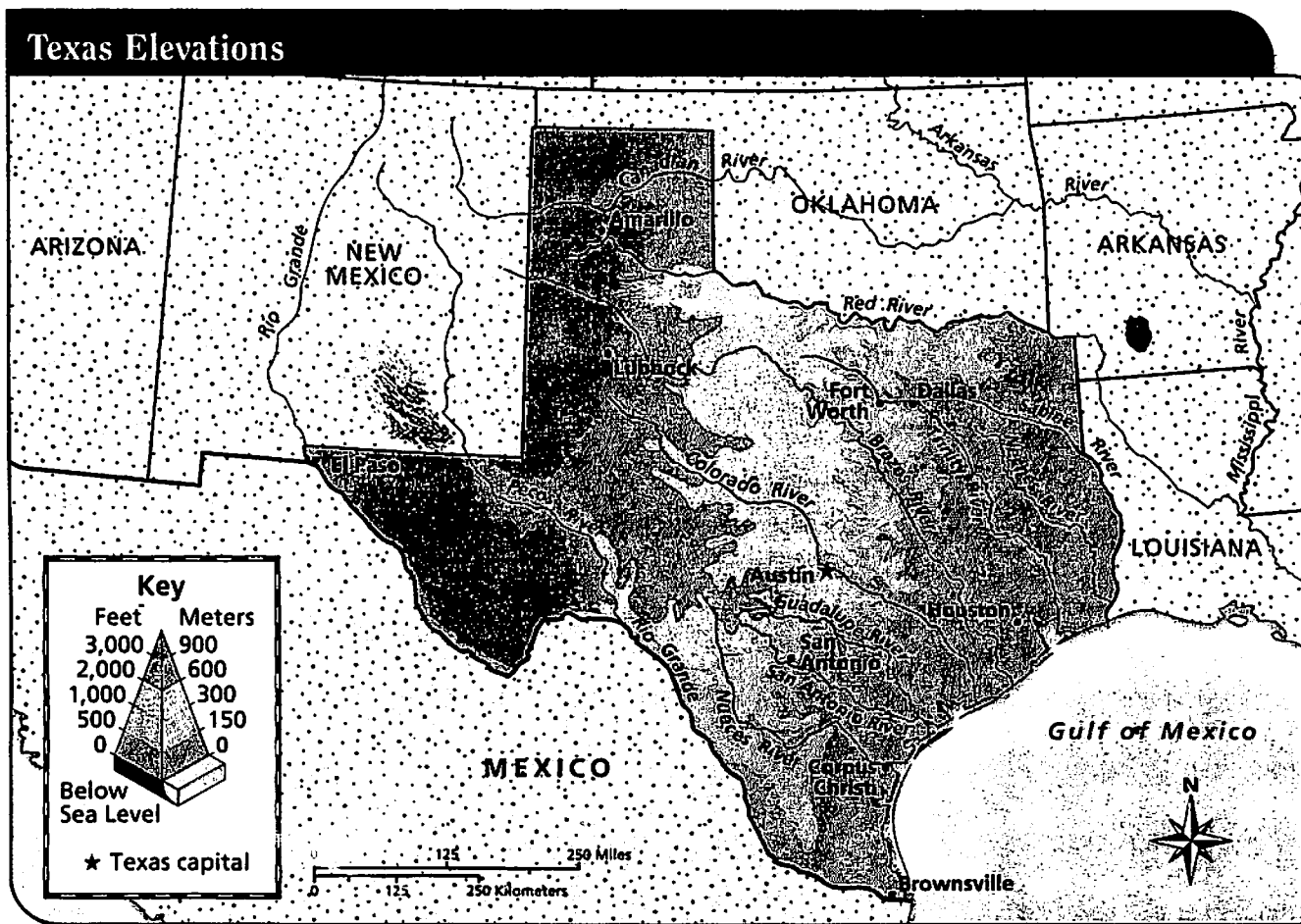
Use an **Elevation Map**

For
SALT
map

What? Elevation (el uh VAY shun) is the height of land above sea level. People usually measure elevation in feet or meters. At sea level, elevation is 0 feet.

An elevation map shows the heights of land areas. Elevation maps usually can be found in atlases. The elevation map shown on this page will help you understand the geography of Texas.

You have read that Texas has a variety of landforms — mountains, basins, plateaus, hills, and plains. On the map below, the colors on the map key are used to show the ranges of height of these various landforms.



Salt map pattern

