

Get Your Kicks! (Part 1)

Route 66 was one of America's first major highways. In this activity, trace the transcontinental route that became the "Mother Road."

Directions:

1. Examine the three Scenic Hi-Way Travel Mats and the lyrics to the song "Route 66." Note the various towns mentioned by these sources.
2. Take a moment to study the large map provided. Note that this map **precedes** the construction of Route 66.
3. Using a marker, mark the site of the following towns on the large map provided, connecting them as you go.

Illinois	Missouri	Kansas	Oklahoma	Texas	New Mexico	Arizona	California
Chicago Pontiac Bloomington Lincoln Springfield Staunton Edwardsville	St. Louis Cuba Rolla Springfield	Oswego	Afton Claremore Tulsa Ok. City Yukon El Reno	Amarillo	Santa Rosa Gallup	Holbrook Winslow Flagstaff Seligman Kingman	Needles Amboy Barstow Los Angeles

Questions for discussion:

- Examine the printed inset with Route 66 marked. How closely does your route match it?
- Why do you think Route 66 connected the cities it did?
- Did Route 66 develop along, or replace, existing roads or avenues of travel? If so, what were they? What does this tell us about the history of American transportation?

Get Your Kicks! (Part 2)

Today, Route 66 is most famous as a repository of the kitschy traveling culture of the postwar era. In this activity, you'll examine a variety of attractions and icons from Route 66 and plan a trip of your own.

Directions:

1. Read through the mock "travel guide" we've created, containing photos and information of various Route 66 attractions.
2. Choose at least eight (8) attractions you'd like to see. Write them below, with a short explanation of why you'd like to see them:

- | | |
|----|----|
| a. | e. |
| b. | f. |
| c. | g. |
| d. | h. |

3. Put your attractions in order **from east to west**.
4. Imagine that you are starting your trip from mile 0 (Chicago's Grant Park). Using the attached mileage guide, determine how many miles you'll have to drive to complete each leg of your trip.

Questions for Discussion:

- How long will your trip take, in miles? In hours?
- Considering the price of gas, how expensive do you think your trip might be? How might that price compare to other modes of travel?
- Why do you think so many Americans chose driving across the country as a vacation during the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s?