Route 66 in New Mexico
Video Viewing Guide

Before Viewing
1. Write down three things you know about Route 66.

2. Can you find it on a road map? Indicate Route 66’s course through New Mexico on a state map.

Discussion Questions
3. In the early part of the twentieth century, Chicago and Los Angeles were major economic centers. Describe the need that existed for creating a highway system that linked these cities.

4. Discuss the role of travel and transportation in the average American’s life before national highways such as Route 66.

5. At the turn of the century, New Mexico’s economy was based largely on farming and ranching. How did Route 66 change the economy of New Mexico?

6. Route 66 in New Mexico symbolized the freedom of the open road. It attracted those looking for better opportunities and vacationers. Describe the changes in businesses and tourism as Route 66 developed into a major highway.

7. Discuss how Route 66 created an image of New Mexico.

8. What are some of New Mexico’s unique features that were brought to the attention of mainstream America by Route 66?

9. Why does Route 66 no longer exist as one continuous highway? What ultimately killed Route 66?