

Miles of History



Route 66 turns 100 this year. Find out how communities are celebrating this beloved highway.

LEXILE: 1060L

SOCIAL STUDIES (NCSS) STANDARD: Time, Continuity, and Change

COMMON CORE (CCSS) STANDARDS: RI.6-8.1, RI.6-8.2, W.6-8.2, W.6-8.8

ENGAGE THE READER

Ask students to close their eyes and picture a cross-country road trip. Ask them to picture what they might be seeing and hearing along the road, and what they might be doing in the car. Then poll the class, asking who would like to take a road trip. Call on volunteers to explain why or why not. Explain that students will be reading about a popular road trip route. Has anyone ever heard of or driven on Route 66? Have students read the story independently and write down some things that might be of interest on Route 66.

QUESTIONS FOR CLOSE READING AND DISCUSSION

- What's the purpose of this article? Do you think it's newsworthy?
- Do you think it would be worth maintaining and restoring Route 66 and its attractions?
- What details does the author include to interest readers in Route 66? Would you like to travel on this road?

EXTEND LEARNING

Bring the class back together to discuss some of the details they noted while reading. Would they be interested in traveling on Route 66? Note that the historic roadway has many sights and destinations along the way. Groups will be researching one and imagining it in its heyday. Pull up the National Park Service's "Travel Route 66" page at [ti.me/NPS66](https://www.nps.gov/travelroute66) and show students how to scan through the attractions. Tell them they'll be choosing one, and will work as a group to create a commercial from the time period in which the attraction opened. They'll have to research both the attraction and the decade in which it was new. Group students or allow them to choose groups. Give them time to do research. Encourage them to look up slang and clothes from the time period. If time and resources permit, have groups film their commercial.

COVER STORY QUIZ + ANSWER KEY

Make a copy of the Google Form quiz for "Miles of History" [here](#).

- 1. D** (RI.1) **2. A** (RI.3) **3. C** (RI.4) **4. B** (RI.2) **5. C** (RI.7)
6. D (RI.5) **7. Answers will vary.** (W.1)