

ROADTRIP NATION



FOREVER FRONTIER



V I E W I N G G U I D E



ABOUT ROADTRIP NATION

For 20 years, we here at Roadtrip Nation have made it our mission to help individuals pursue fulfilling careers aligned with their interests and strengths. We show people how to turn the things they like into careers they love—and we do it with the most powerful of tools: personal stories. From snowboard designers to astrobiologists, we've sat down with professionals of all kinds and asked them honest questions about their struggles, successes, and their answers to the age-old question: "What should I do with my life?" These conversations form the foundation of our career resources, which introduce young people to new paths and illustrate how to pursue them.

ABOUT FOREVER FRONTIER

Follow along as Josh, Richard, and Rachel—three young adults eager to explore the opportunities available to them in their home state of Wyoming—travel across the territory to talk with business leaders, government officials, mental health professionals, craft spirit distillers, and other inspiring Wyomingites. Fueled by the Wyoming Department of Education Career and Technical Education, Wyoming Workforce Development Council, the Daniels Fund, and Strada Education Network, the stories of these three young people and those of the inspiring professionals they meet show how blazing your own trail in pursuit of self-realization and success is as true of Wyoming today as it was when the state got its start.

Whether you're new to Roadtrip Nation or have ever explored the many resources available on the [Wyoming Department of Education website](#), this guide is a great way to connect students to important themes and materials to help them along their journeys of career exploration and self-discovery.

The activities and resources that follow are designed to be completed by students along with their mentors, teachers, professors, or family members in order to spark meaningful conversations about students' future aspirations and how to achieve them.

See you on the road!!



HOW TO USE THE *FOREVER FRONTIER* VIEWING GUIDE

The *Forever Frontier* viewing guide is designed to be used during and after viewing the *Forever Frontier* documentary. Here are a few ideas on how to use the guide with your students.



WATCH

This viewing guide should be filled in after watching the documentary as a whole; however, the documentary may be split into two viewings if needed.

Total running time: 60 minutes



TALK

Provide a viewing guide to each student before screening the documentary. Have students read the TALK section and discuss topics that arise. You may want to choose your own discussion topics that are relevant to your students.

If you'd like to use this guide for group discussions, students should write down their thoughts first, then share through conversation. Discussions can take place in small groups with peers, or with an instructor, mentor, or family members. Encourage students to discuss any insights, ideas, or questions they have during the viewing of the documentary or during your conversation.

Student written response time: 30 - 60 minutes

Optional discussion time: 30 - 60 minutes



CONNECT AND REFLECT

Participants can connect and reflect during class time or at home. The discussion questions that the students will be answering will assist in self-exploration and reflection. You will see that each section features questions about Cowboy Ethics. Cowboy Ethics have long been a part of Wyoming's history and heritage. They are as applicable today as they were when Wyoming achieved statehood in 1890.

Invite students to share new information they discover as they connect to the content from the film. You can also encourage them to visit roadtripnation.com for more leader interviews and interactive tools.

MEET THE ROADTRIPPERS



JOSH

Age 24

From Laramie, WY

Josh can see change on the horizon and wants to be a part of it. He's in his senior year at the University of Wyoming studying computer engineering, and he's trying to figure out how to strike the balance between chasing a high income and building a fulfilling life. He's not sure yet whether his future is in Wyoming or somewhere else—he's concerned that there isn't a whole lot of opportunity in his home state for the potential careers he's eager to pursue. But he also loves the idea of helping ensure that Wyoming can make the transition from oil and gas to renewable energy successfully, sustainably, and prosperously.



RACHEL

Age 25

From Pine Bluffs, WY

Rachel feels she's at a crossroads. With both a bachelor's and master's degree under her belt, she's still not sure where her career road will lead her. A Wyoming native, Rachel would love to stay in her home state. She just wants the life she builds to be spent at a job she knows she's meant to pursue. Her background is in agricultural economics and she's also considered law, but she's open to whatever possibilities entice her. She's a jack-of-all-trades looking to become a master of one.



RICHARD

Age 19

Cheyenne, WY

A recent high school graduate, Richard's still charting his next steps. He currently works at a factory as an assembler, but he's still up in the air about going to college. If he continues his education, he wants to make sure he's earning a degree he can put to use in the workplace. He's mainly split between pursuing a career in the mental health field, specifically addiction treatment, and pursuing something a bit more entrepreneurial. He believes his home state is vast, fascinating, and full of possibilities, but he also hopes Wyoming isn't afraid to take steps that the future demands of it.

1: EXPLORING WYOMING THROUGH INTERESTS



"I think the absence of what you're finding in Wyoming might be some of the benefit of it too. It begs the question of what do you want to do? And can you be the one to start the company to build out the dream that you want? The lack of things here are also opportunities for people to bring things here."

AFFIE ELLIS
State Senator, Wyoming



Talk

The leaders in the film work in different fields in Wyoming but followed their interests to get where they are. Figuring out your interests and exploring career possibilities that connect to those interests can be the key to building a future that excites you. Think outside the box as you reflect on what interests you've had throughout your life and how living in Wyoming has impacted you.



Connect and Reflect

1. Roadtripper Richard asks Leader Affie where she sees the future of Wyoming going. How would you answer this question? What areas of growth would you like to see for your state?

2. Affie mentions the saying: "Small minds talk about people, average minds talk about events, and great minds talk about ideas." What ideas do you have for your future? List three ideas that would help make your future goals happen.

1: EXPLORING WYOMING THROUGH INTERESTS



"I know this is where I belong. It just feels right. We have an obligation in our own state to make sure that people have those opportunities to be here. I think we are a state of pioneers. I think we are gritty. I think we can outwork any other state, hands down, no questions asked."

JASON KINTZLER
Founder, Lifekey

3. Leader Jason talks to the roadtrippers about how staying in Wyoming feels right to him. As Roadtripper Josh struggles with not knowing if it's right for him, what advice would you give him about the benefits of staying in Wyoming?

4. Combining your interests is a great way to think outside the box when it comes to career exploration. What are two interests you have that seem very different? What draws you to each of those interests? Is there a common denominator between the two?

5. From the list of Cowboy Ethics (<http://cowboyethics.org/cowboy-ethics/>), match which ethics you think align with Leaders Affie and Jason. Explain why you chose that specific ethic for that leader.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Live each day with courage. | <input type="checkbox"/> When you make a promise, keep it. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Take pride in your work. | <input type="checkbox"/> Ride for the brand. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Always finish what you start. | <input type="checkbox"/> Talk less and say more. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Do what has to be done. | <input type="checkbox"/> Remember that some things aren't for sale. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Be tough, but fair. | <input type="checkbox"/> Know where to draw the line |

2: COURAGE + CHANGE



“I was really looking to help people and also have a job that I enjoyed and challenged me. Sometimes your degree doesn’t necessarily dictate who you are. Don’t think about the profession you want to do, think about the aspects of [a] job that you enjoy... and then find a job that matches that.”

AARON APPLEHANS
Sheriff, Albany County



Talk

Next steps in life take courage. There’s also risk involved. However, there’s no greater investment than investing in yourself. Whether it’s financial, physical, or emotional, the investment and time will allow you to see what you’re truly capable of achieving.

Change and failure are important life lessons.



Connect and Reflect

1. Leader Aaron wanted to get into a profession where he could help people. When you think about your career, what foundation would you like to build it on? It can range from helping people to working with others to being creative to problem solving to being physically active.

2. Why do you think we are programmed to be afraid of failure? What messages does society send to you about failure? Talk about a time you reframed failure into a positive experience.

2: COURAGE + CHANGE



"I tried anything and everything. I always said I never failed, some things just didn't work out. But I always learned a lot. Be willing to do anything, and get up early and work real hard."

TOM BALDING
Founder, Tom Balding Bits & Spurs

3. Roadtripper Rachel is hesitant to step out of her comfort zone, but she's curious about what else is out there. What is something that's in your comfort zone? What makes you feel safe? What is an example of how you could step outside of your comfort zone?

4. When was a time that you felt courageous in your life?

5. From the list of Cowboy Ethics (<http://cowboyethics.org/cowboy-ethics/>), which one do you feel like you embody the most? Why?"

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3: SUPPORT NETWORK



“I feel like it is really important to find someone who is by your side, pushing you to do better instead of pulling you down. Healthy relationships are the key to [being] successful in life.”

DANIELA PETERSON
Founder, Vista Counseling



Talk

To define your own road, you need to listen to yourself, but it isn't always easy. The most successful leaders have been able to stay true to themselves because they developed a support network of friends, family, and mentors whose advice they value. Their support networks cheered them on as they figured out who they were and lifted their spirits when they struggled.



Connect and Reflect

1. Negative discouragement from others that ignores who you are and what you want in life is what we call “noise.” Roadtripper Richard talks about the negativity he feels from others and how he wants to prove people wrong. What is some current “noise” in your life and how can you work on blocking it?

2. Leader Daniela mentions that her mom and her husband are her cheerleaders. Are there people in your life that support your dreams? Who are they and how do they show their support?

3: SUPPORT NETWORK



"If you want to push for the vision that you want, you can actually do it here in Wyoming. In our state, one person is a lot of people. There are a lot of drivers' seats in Wyoming, where if you want to take it, you can take it. You can create something from scratch."

AMBER POLLOCK

Co-Founder, Backwards Distilling Company

3. Leader Amber started her business with her family based on their mutual interests. Who would you want to start a business with, and why? Do you know people in your town that have similar interests to you? How could talking to them help your future goals?

4. Your support system should always include yourself. When you are your own advocate you build the confidence to achieve what you want in life. List three ways you are already your own champion or three things you can start doing to become a better advocate for yourself.

5. From the list of Cowboy Ethics (<http://cowboyethics.org/cowboy-ethics/>), which one do you feel like needs the most improvement in your life? Why?"

- | | |
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6. Leader Amber started her business with her family based on their mutual interests. Who would you want to start a business with, and why? Do you know people in your town that have similar interests to you? How could talking to them help your future goals?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Take a look at postsecondary options within Wyoming:

[Casper College](#)

[Central Wyoming College](#)

[Eastern Wyoming College](#)

[Laramie County Community College](#)

[Northern Wyoming Community College](#)

[Northwest College](#)

[Western Wyoming Community College](#)

[University of Wyoming](#)

To learn more about Cowboy Ethics, check out this [TEDxTalk: Cowboy Ethics in the Classroom -- The Great Experiment: Ann Moore at TEDxDenverTeachers](#)