

CROSSROADS OF THE AMERICAS

LESSON 2 ACTIVITY 1 Part 1: EXPLORING THE WALL

["The Wall: Untold Stories, Unintended Consequences"](#), the 2018 Pulitzer Prize-winning documentary from the Arizona Republic and USA TODAY NETWORK, presents six ways to explore the border wall. Reporters, photojournalists, editors, and developers contributed to this project. They interviewed migrants, farmers, families, tribal members, and a human smuggler. They joined Border Control on the ground, in a tunnel, and at sea, and they patrolled with vigilantes and ranchers.

Watch the trailer to *The Wall* <https://borderwallmovie.usatoday.com/>, then explore the border wall project and learn about a border wall's ecological, financial, human, and political impact. Reflect on *The Flight*, *The Interactive Border Map*, *The Hardest Line*, and *The Takeaway* About this Project in your journal. Be prepared to share your ideas during class discussion. Use the following guiding questions as a guide.

Can a wall be built? Should it be built? At what cost? Will it work?

- What are the controversies about building a wall?
- What is the advantage of seeing the wall via helicopter?
- What is the advantage of seeing the wall from the streets?
- What are the diverse geographical features on the border?
- What is a border wall's ecological, financial, political, and human impact?



THE FLIGHT

A 2,000-mile journey in the shadow of the border wall. Much of the border is so remote, it can only be easily seen from the air. But as we flew other ideas became clear, too.

Video <https://www.usatoday.com/border-wall/documentaries/105780896> (8:55)

THE INTERACTIVE BORDER MAP <https://www.usatoday.com/border-wall/us-mexico-interactive-border-map/>

- Ch. 1: *Where fences begin, and why they end*
- Ch. 2: *How Trump's border wall promise took hold*
- Ch. 3: *Why no one knows what the wall costs*
- Ch. 4: *Amid a reputation of violence, real life goes on*
- Ch. 5: *A 2,000-mile journey in the shadow of the wall*
- Ch. 6: *The deadly miles too rugged for construction*
- Ch. 7: *What a wall requires, and what we lack*

THE HARDEST LINE

A moveable border, and the history of a difficult line. The border moved many times, sometimes by force, sometimes for profit. Tracing its path has never been easy.

THE TAKEAWAY -ABOUT THIS PROJECT

What the team saw, and what you'll learn. To create this report, the team flew and filmed every foot of the border. To share it with you, they pushed the boundaries of technology.