



**GATHER
ROUND**

J O K E R

THEME



ACCESS



COMMUNITY



NATURE



RESPONSIBILITY



SELF

CATEGORY



ABOUT US



BE PRESENT



GET CREATIVE



GET SOCIAL



QUOTE



RESPOND

J O K E R

Gather Round is a DIY program, which gives you the freedom to invent your own rules. The goal is to have conversations. Some cards in this deck have actions.

Others are quotes to read aloud and respond to in whatever way you like.

Suggestions for adapting games like Go Fish!, Memory, or Theme and Variation are online at:

[HUMANITIESMONTANA.ORG/GATHER-
ROUND/CARDS-FOR-HUMANITIES-2](https://humanitiesmontana.org/gather-round/cards-for-humanities-2)

2 ♠



Contact your local media and ask them to cover water issues. Amplify the stories by sharing current articles on social media.

TAG @HUMANITIESMONTANA
#HMGATHERROUND



CONNECTION



"When I think about home, I always think about the water. I think about how the generations before me have had this connection to the water. I think about the fish that are swimming within the lake. That water is embedded within our DNA—to protect it."



4 ♠



"I was born in Reno but I've spent my whole life here at Pyramid Lake. I grew up on the reservation, so a lot of my childhood was spent outside. I see it as my responsibility to protect these areas."



0:01:01 – CONNECTION

5



"I don't usually call myself an activist because for me it feels like the work I do to protect the fish and the water, it's more of a responsibility than anything else."



0:06:19 – CONNECTION

6



Environmental philosophers talk about the human value and intrinsic value of nature. What benefits do we get from water as a natural resource? Do these natural waterways have value in and of themselves? How might that be expressed or experienced?



7



"Even though I've been fishing my whole life, there's not a whole lot of fly fisher people who live within the reservation. Because I didn't see it, I didn't think it was an accessible sport. It always seemed very expensive to me."



0:04:17 – CONNECTION

8



"So whenever I travel to places I always think about the original stewards of those lands and I think about the Indigenous peoples from those areas and the territory that we're on when we're fishing. I'm thinking of those things and I'm thinking of my impact when I travel to those places."



0:05:32 – CONNECTION

9



CONNECTION

10♠



"It's about remembering the connection we have to those fish. Without those fish I wouldn't be who I am today."



0:07:02 – CONNECTION



Take a water break. Drinking water can have a positive effect on your emotional state and physical wellness.



Are there waterways you would like to access, but can't? Are there places you would like to keep to yourself or your community? Talk about how we might navigate exclusion and privilege in a fair way.



CONNECTION



Get out your watercolors! They don't have to be fancy. Have fun mixing colors and watching the pigment spread in the water. Paint a native fish or see if you can capture the transparency of a glass of water.



Big Sky Film Institute Mission To
celebrate and promote the art of
nonfiction filmmaking, and to encourage
media literacy by fostering public
understanding and appreciation of
documentary film.

2 ♦



Film is a visual medium. Take a photo of your gathering that tells a story about who you are as a group. Share with each other and post online.

TAG @HUMANITIESMONTANA
#HMGATHERROUND



TAKING THE WATERS

3 ♦



"It's quiet, it's peaceful, it's you, the universe and the water, that's it."



0:03:44 – TAKING THE WATERS

4 ♦



"In 1986 I think I was, like, the second Asian down here. It was like a village...It wasn't a town, trust me. It took us twelve years to get used to this place but I don't want to leave it now."



0:07:32 – TAKING THE WATERS

5 ♦



"I always seem to have some sort of
adventure when I'm swimming in the sea."



0:08:26 – TAKING THE WATERS

6 ♦



An important part of conversation is listening. Pick another card and ask someone else in your group to respond to it. Listen for something you didn't already know.



7 ♦



"The sea is a huge metaphysical experience that is bigger than all of us. If you allow it to, it reminds you that you're not so big."



0:05:23 – TAKING THE WATERS

8



"If you hate your life or you hate yourself, if you then jump in cold water and if you fear for your life, it means you mustn't hate your life. You have to keep moving."



0:13:41 – TAKING THE WATERS



TAKING THE WATERS

10♦



"Until, seemingly overnight, I wasn't enough for them. They turned their backs and travelled abroad. The tide had turned."



0:01:29 – TAKING THE WATERS



Are you near water? Take 60 seconds to listen to the sound of a running stream, rain, a sprinkler, or a tap. If there is no water nearby, what does its absence sound like?



Have you ever been in hot springs?
Tell a story about your geothermal
experience. What does it mean to be
"inside the soup"?



TAKING THE WATERS



Strike your best beauty pageant pose. Go all out with costumes and judges, or just take a minute to laugh and see the beauty in the people who are with you.



Humanities Montana Mission To serve communities through stories and conversation. We offer experiences that nurture imagination and ideas by speaking to Montanans' diverse history, literature, and philosophy.

2 ♣



What are the water restrictions in your community? You might be surprised by the regulations. Do some research and share what you find online.

TAG @HUMANITIESMONTANA
#HMGATHERROUND



SCENES FROM A DRY CITY

3



"I love gardening and I've lost a lot of my garden in this drought. It's heartbreaking to watch it all die."



0:08:13 – SCENES FROM A DRY CITY

4



"You cannot make a profit out of water. Water is necessary for life. It doesn't mean if you don't have money you don't get water. We must provide water for everybody and it must be free."



0:04:35 – SCENES FROM A DRY CITY

5



"If you take away my car wash, what do you expect me to do? Do you want me to break in? Do you want me to rob the people on the street? Here I'm doing an honest living. You're taking this away also."



0:02:10 – SCENES FROM A DRY CITY

6



"A documentary film tells a story about real life, with claims to truthfulness.

Documentaries are about real life, they are not real life, they use real life as their raw material. There is no way to make a film without manipulating the material."

(Documentary Film: A Very Short Introduction, Patricia Aufderheide)

Where do you notice a point of view different from your own?

7



“Water crisis my foot. Do you see any rich white people suffering from a water shortage? Go to those overpriced hotels down the road. You can run the bathwater until it floods, comrades. They have no water crisis there. But I bet you’ve got no water in your house.”



0:05:40 – SCENES FROM A DRY CITY

8



"We can no longer ask people to stop wasting water, we now have to force them."



0:00:50 – SCENES FROM A DRY

9



SCENES FROM A DRY CITY

10 ♣



“No repentance, no rain! Faith in God.
Forgive our sins, bring rain to the land.
First the spiritual and then the rain is
coming. Plenty rain.”



0:09:15 – SCENES FROM A DRY CITY

J



Take a moment to look around you. Share with your gathering something you notice that is shaped by or made with water.



SCENES FROM A DRY CITY portrays political protest and religion as responses to the Cape Town water shortage. Which images from these scenes most resonated with you?



SCENES FROM A DRY CITY

K



Take a few minutes to write. Reflect on the films you watched, your personal experience, or the stories you've heard. You might write a poem, a song, or prose. Share with the intention of listening, not critiquing.

A



National Endowment for the Humanities

Mission Because democracy demands wisdom, NEH serves and strengthens our republic by promoting excellence in the humanities and conveying the lessons of history to all Americans.

2 ❤️



Expand your filter bubble. Look for people and organizations from the films to follow on social media.

If you don't already, follow:

@HUMANITIESMONTANA

@BIGSKYDOCUMENTARYFILMFEST



WATER WARRIORS

3 ♥



“Water is the gift of life. Nothing in this world can live without water.”



0:00:13 – WATER WARRIORS

4 ❤️



“As women we have a special relationship with water because we, too, are life givers and for nine months we carry our children beneath our heart—in water.”



0:00:22 – WATER WARRIORS

5 ❤️



“We live in a place where industry pretty much runs the province. We don’t have much say as a population about what the government does.”



0:05:38 – WATER WARRIORS

6 ❤️



What are the similarities between your own community and what you saw in the films? What can we learn from the stories that applies locally?



7 ♥



"We try to live in harmony with our Mother Earth. We try to live together with everyone here...everything has a spirit. The animals, the water, the trees. And if one of those elements are gone it'll all fall down."



0:01:16 – WATER WARRIORS



"It's not up to them what will happen with our land. It's up to us. We are the land holders. We are the warriors. We are the protectors. So, we did our job."



0:20:40 – WATER WARRIORS

9 ❤️



WATER WARRIORS

10♥



“It’s a common goal. It’s water, air, land,
so we felt we had to be a presence. To
get in the way.”



0:06:40 – WATER WARRIORS



Wiggle your toes. If you are near a body of water, stick your feet in, or imagine sitting on the edge of a dock with your feet in the water. How does your body feel in this moment?



Why is it important to build coalitions in the fight to keep land and water clean?

How can we come together with people from different racial/ethnic backgrounds and find common ground to engage in non-violent direct action?



WATER WARRIORS



Music is a powerful element in the film
WATER WARRIORS. Play a song that
moves you, connects you, or pushes
you to act.



Land Acknowledgment We are in the homelands of Indigenous people. We offer our respect for their history and culture, and for the path they have always shown us in caring for this place for generations to come.

Whose traditional lands are you on today?