



The Goldman Environmental Prize Teacher Video Guide

Teachers' Guide for Students in Grades 8-12

Overview:

[The Goldman Environmental Prize](#) celebrates the extraordinary achievements of grassroots environmental heroes worldwide, inspiring us all to become champions for our planet. This prestigious award recognizes individuals who are making a significant difference in their communities and beyond, tackling critical environmental challenges such as climate change, deforestation, and pollution. By partnering with frontline conservationists, climate change advocates, and environmental justice champions, the Goldman Prize identifies and amplifies the voices of grassroots leaders.

Introducing the Goldman Environmental Prize to Students:

Students can explore the captivating video profiles of each Prize recipient to deepen their understanding of environmental issues as well as leadership skills. These resources are invaluable for middle and high school students across various disciplines, including science, social studies, and English Language Arts (ELA). The videos offer a unique opportunity to:

- Connect with real-world issues: Engage students with real-world environmental challenges and the individuals working to address them.
- Develop critical thinking: Encourage students to analyze complex environmental issues, evaluate evidence, and form informed opinions.
- Foster empathy and global awareness: Cultivate empathy for diverse cultures and perspectives and inspire students to become global citizens.
- Inspire action: Motivate students to take action in their own communities and become agents of change.

The Prize winner videos (<https://www.goldmanprize.org/all-winners/>) are thoughtfully categorized by environmental issue, allowing teachers to seamlessly integrate these inspiring stories of environmental champions into their existing science, social studies, and ELA curricula. A variety of video note-taking guides are included in this packet to support student learning:

- Diverse Approaches: Global videos showcase different perspectives on each profile (profiles can be sorted by country).
- Subject-Specific Focus: Each guide is specifically designed to address a particular subject area (e.g., Science, Social Studies, ELA).
- Independent or Group Work: Can be used independently for individual or small group work, or as a precursor to whole-class discussions.



Each video is hosted on a profile page that contains one or more of the following:

- A short documentary film (typically 4-6 minutes)
- Written profile describing the individual's accomplishment
- High-resolution photographs

Curricular Alignment:

The videos and accompanying guides are thoughtfully designed to align with key learning standards, including:

Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS):

- LS2C: Ecosystem Dynamics
- LS4D: Biodiversity and Humans
- ESS3C: Human Impacts on Earth Systems
- ESS3D: Global Climate Change
- Incorporates science and engineering practices and cross-cutting concepts.

Common Core State Standards (CCSS) ELA/Literacy

- Fosters critical reading, writing, and analysis skills.

National Curriculum Standards for Social Studies

- Explores social, economic, and environmental issues with a global perspective.

How to Use:

The Goldman Environmental Prize videos are powerful educational resources that showcase real-world environmental heroes and their achievements. The videos document the world's most impactful grassroots environmental activists through award-winning short films. Each 4-6-minute video tells a compelling story of an individual creating positive environmental change in their community.

To maximize their educational value:

1. Preview and select videos relevant to your curriculum themes (environmental science, civic engagement, social justice, etc.).
2. Provide context before viewing by introducing key concepts and vocabulary.
3. Pause at strategic points to discuss environmental challenges, solutions, and impacts.
4. Students use the video notetaking guides while watching and discussing.
5. Connect the stories to local environmental issues students can relate to.

The videos work well for various purposes, from lesson hooks to case studies to inspiration for student projects. You can pair them with assignments ranging from basic comprehension questions to in-depth research papers on related environmental topics. They also work well to use with substitute teaching lesson plans.

Extension Activities:

Science: Discuss the scientific concepts related to the environmental issues addressed by the winners. Investigate the scientific methods used by the Prize recipients in their research and conservation efforts. Conduct hands-on science experiments or research projects related to the environmental issues explored in the videos.

Social Studies: Analyze the social, economic, and political factors that contribute to environmental problems. Explore the role of government, non-profit organizations, and community action in addressing environmental challenges. Investigate different cultural perspectives on environmental issues and conservation.

English Language Arts: Analyze the persuasive techniques used by the winners in their advocacy work. Write essays, create presentations, or develop multimedia projects that tell the stories of the Prize recipients. Engage in debates and discussions about environmental issues, considering different viewpoints and ethical considerations.

Discussion Questions:

The questions listed below can be utilized as discussion questions after students have completed a video note-taking guide. Whole-group discussions encourage deeper learning and promote meaningful discourse.

Socratic questions

- Clarification: “Can you elaborate on that?” “How do you know?”
- Assumptions: “What are you taking for granted?” “What alternative assumptions are possible?”
- Reasons and Evidence: “Why do you believe that?” “What evidence supports your claim?”
- Viewpoints and Perspectives: “What is an opposing viewpoint?” “How does your perspective differ?”
- Implications and Consequences: “What are the potential outcomes of this action?” “What if your assumptions are incorrect?”

Distilling Ideas

- “What is the most significant takeaway from this video?”
- “What aspects of this story are you finding challenging or confusing?”
- “What question would you most like to ask the Prize winner?”
- “How has this video challenged your thinking or broadened your perspective?”

Connecting with Goldman Environmental Prize:

If you have comments or questions about this resource or the Goldman Prize, please get in touch with us at education@goldmanprize.org.



Student Video Note Taking Guides

A. Video Note Taking Guide: General

Goldman Prize Winner Name _____

Before the video:

- Review the profile page of the Goldman Prize winner video on www.goldmanprize.org/all-winners
- As you read the profile, use the guide below to identify things you know about the topic.

During the video:

- Cite the specific environmental issues discussed in the video.
- Cite specific actions that were taken to address the environmental issue.

After the video:

- How have the ideas presented about this topic broadened your thinking?

THINGS I KNOW

THINGS I LEARNED

THINGS THAT EXPANDED MY THINKING

B. Video Note Taking Guide: Geography

Goldman Prize Winner Name _____

Use the graphic organizer below as you

- Review the profile page of the Goldman Prize winner video on www.goldmanprize.org/all-winners
- Watch the video
- Be prepared to discuss your findings

What is the environmental issue the Goldman Prize winner is addressing?	What is the significance of this issue?	How does the location impact the story/issue presented?

What are the specific geographic challenges or advantages faced by the individuals or communities featured in the video?	Are there any similar environmental issues in other regions and how could this solution be applied in that context?

Draw a world map identifying where this solution has been implemented.

C. Video Note Taking Guide: Vocabulary

Goldman Prize Winner Name _____

Use the graphic organizer below as you

- Review the profile page of the Goldman Prize winner video on www.goldmanprize.org/all-winners
- Watch the video
- Be prepared to discuss your findings

Identify and define: List 3-5 key vocabulary words or terms used in the video or profile page.	What is the context of this vocabulary word in the profile or video?

How are the key vocabulary words used in the video?

- To describe environmental issues?
- To explain scientific concepts?
- To discuss social or political challenges?
- To convey emotions or perspectives?

Writing Activity

Incorporate the vocabulary words into a creative writing piece, such as poem, short story, or short essay.

D. Video Note Taking Guide: Science

Goldman Prize Winner Name _____

Use the graphic organizer below as you

- Review the profile page of the Goldman Prize winner video on www.goldmanprize.org/all-winners
- Watch the video
- Be prepared to discuss your findings

What is the environmental issue of concern in the video?	What kind of data was collected (e.g., observations, measurements, experiments) to make the case to address this solution?
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How is science being used to address environmental challenges in the video?	Are there any ethical considerations related to the scientific research or solutions presented?
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Create infographic that explains the key ideas presented in the video.

E. Video Note Taking Guide: Identifying Social Dimensions

Goldman Prize Winner Name _____

Use the graphic organizer below as you

- Review the profile page of the Goldman Prize winner video on www.goldmanprize.org/all-winners
- Watch the video
- Be prepared to discuss your findings

What communities are affected by the environmental issue?	
What is the Indigenous peoples' involvement or impact, if applicable?	
What are the economic factors and considerations?	
What is the cultural significance of the environment being protected?	
What is the opposition faced (corporate, governmental, other)?	

F. Video Note Taking Guide: Identifying Leadership Qualities

Goldman Prize Winner Name _____

Use the graphic organizer below as you

- Review the profile page of the Goldman Prize winner video on www.goldmanprize.org/all-winners
- Watch the video
- Be prepared to discuss your findings

What innovative approaches were used?	
What communication strategies were used to move this project forward?	
How was the community engaged in the solution?	
What were the risks taken and personal sacrifices of the Goldman Prize winner?	
What is the vision going forward?	

G. Video Note Taking Guide: Changemaking

Goldman Prize Winner Name _____

Use the graphic organizer below as you

- Review the profile page of the Goldman Prize winner video on www.goldmanprize.org/all-winners
- Watch the video
- Be prepared to discuss your findings

What strategies could be replicated for other environmental campaigns?	
What are the key success tools that the Goldman Prize winner used?	
How was grassroots organizing implemented?	
How did local knowledge and expertise lead to success?	
Explain the integration of scientific and traditional approaches to solving this issue.	

H. Video Note Taking Guide: Personal Reflections

Goldman Prize Winner Name _____

Use the graphic organizer below as you

- Review the profile page of the Goldman Prize winner video on www.goldmanprize.org/all-winners
- Watch the video
- Be prepared to discuss your findings

Include:

What do you find to be the most inspiring aspects of the story?	
What surprised you as you watched the video?	
What connections can you make to other environmental movements?	
How might a similar approach be used in a local application of an environmental issue?	