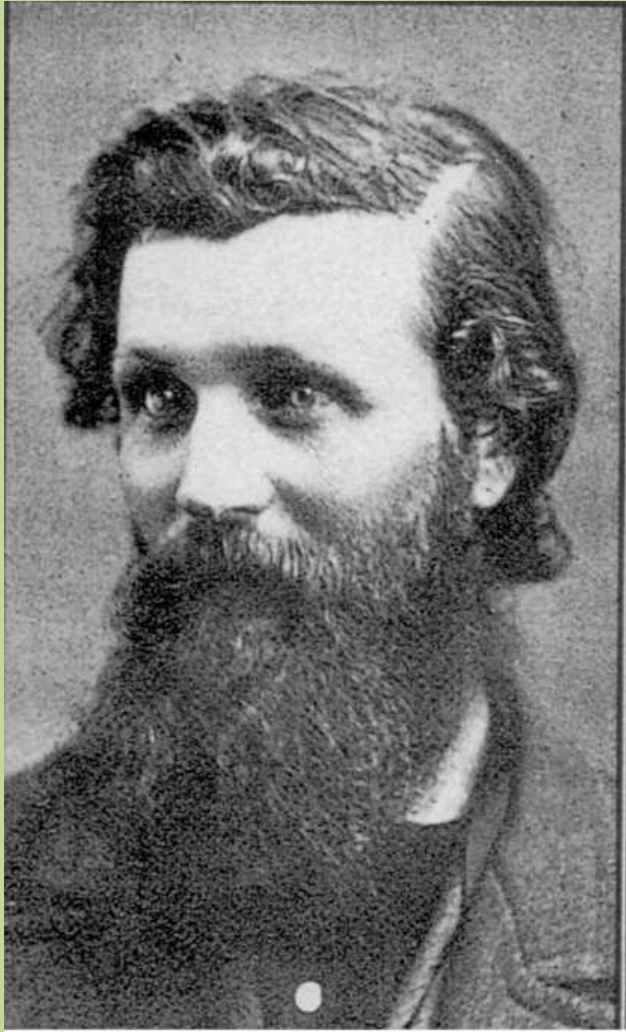


10 Famous environmentalists, scientists, naturalists, and activists you should know



John Muir



- Scottish, moved to Wisconsin as a young boy
- His lifelong passion for hiking began as a young man when he hiked to the Gulf of Mexico
- Spent much of his adult life wandering in -- and fighting to preserve -- the wilderness of the western United States, especially California
- His tireless efforts led to the creation of Yosemite National Park, Sequoia National Park and millions of other conservation areas
- In 1892, Muir and others founded the Sierra Club "to make the mountains glad"

Rachel Carson

- Regarded by many as the founder of the modern environmental movement
- Published many books, but her most famous work, however, was 1962's controversial *Silent Spring*, in which she described the devastating effect that pesticides were having on the environment
- Though criticized by chemical companies and others, Carson's observations were proven correct and pesticides like DDT were eventually banned



Aldo Leopold



- Considered by some to be the godfather of wilderness conservation
- After studying forestry at Yale University, he worked for the U.S. Forest Service
- Though he was originally asked to kill bears, cougars and other predators on federal land because of protests from local ranchers, he later adopted a more holistic approach to wilderness management
- His best-known book, *A Sand County Almanac*, remains one of the most eloquent pleas for the preservation of wilderness ever composed

Julia 'Butterfly' Hill

- One of the most fascinating environmentalists alive today
- After nearly dying in an auto accident in 1996, she dedicated her life to environmental causes
- For almost two years, Hill lived in the branches of an ancient redwood tree (which she named Luna) in northern California to save it from being cut down
- Her tree-sit became an international cause célèbre, and Hill remains dedicated to environmental and social causes



Henry David Thoreau



- One of America's first philosopher-writer-activists, and he is still one of the most influential
- In 1845, Thoreau -- disillusioned with much of contemporary life -- set out to live alone in a small house he built near the shore of Walden Pond in Massachusetts
- The two years he spent living a life of utter simplicity were the inspiration for *Walden, or A Life in the Woods*, a meditation on life and nature that is considered a must-read for all environmentalists
- Thoreau also wrote an influential political piece called *Resistance to Civil Government* (*Civil Disobedience*) that outlined the moral bankruptcy of overbearing governments

Theodore Roosevelt

- Famed big-game hunter
- One of the most active champions of wilderness preservation in history
- As governor of New York, he outlawed the use of feathers as clothing adornment in order to prevent the slaughter of some birds
- While president of the United States (1901-1909), Roosevelt set aside hundreds of millions of wilderness acres, actively pursued soil and water conservation, and created over 200 national forests, national monuments, national parks and wildlife refuges



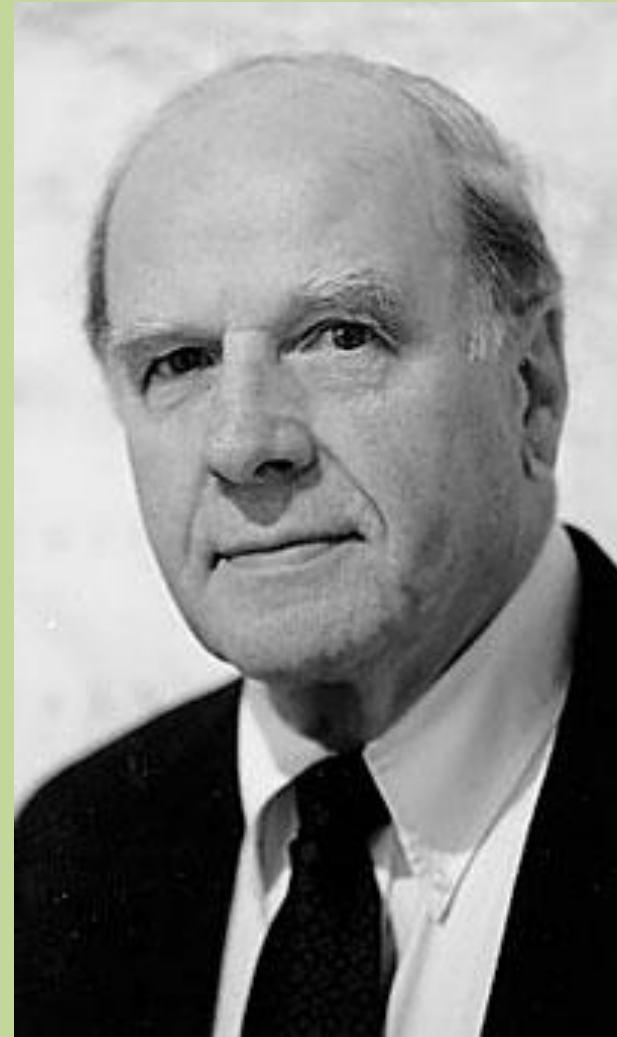
Chico Mendes



- Best known for his efforts at saving the rainforests of Brazil from logging and ranching activities
- Came from a family of rubber harvesters who supplemented their income by gathering nuts
- Alarmed at the devastation of the Amazon rainforest, he helped to ignite international support for its preservation
- His activities, however, drew the ire of powerful ranching and timber interests -- Mendes was murdered by cattle ranchers at age 44

Gaylord Nelson

- After returning from World War II, Nelson began a career as a politician and environmental activist that was to last the rest of his life
- As governor of Wisconsin, he created an Outdoor Recreation Acquisition Program that saved about one million acres of park land
- He was instrumental in the development of a national trails system (including the Appalachian Trail), and help pass the Wilderness Act, the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act and other landmark environmental legislation
- He is perhaps best known as the founder of Earth Day, which has become an international celebration of all things environmental



Garrett Hardin



- American ecologist who warned of the dangers of overpopulation and whose concept of the *tragedy of the commons* brought attention to "the damage that innocent actions by individuals can inflict on the environment"
- He was most well known for his elaboration of this theme in his 1968 paper, *The Tragedy of the Commons*
- A common thread throughout his work is an interest in bioethics
- Also known for Hardin's First Law of Ecology, which states "You cannot do only one thing"

- Born in Vancouver
- Along with his family, was sent to an internment camp in B.C. during the Second World War
- Professor of genetics at the University of British Columbia from 1969-1993
- In 1979 began hosting what would become his most well-known program called The Nature of Things, run by CBC, designed to help stimulate broader interest in nature, wildlife, and a more sustainable society
- Established the David Suzuki Foundation in order to help promote sustainable development and humans living in balance with nature
- Remains outspoken about the human-involvement in climate change and society's lack of action to change practices
- Written dozens of books for all ages

David Suzuki



Let's Review...

Person	Famous contribution
John Muir	Sierra Club
Rachel Carson	<i>Silent Spring</i>
Aldo Leopold	Godfather of wilderness conservation
Julia Hill	Tree-sitter
Henry David Thoreau	<i>Walden</i>
Theodore Roosevelt	Champion of wilderness conservation
Chico Mendes	Amazon rainforest preservationist
Gaylord Nelson	Earth Day
Garrett Hardin	Tragedy of the commons
David Suzuki	The Nature of Things