

TYLER PRIZE 2022 STUDY GUIDE

FOR HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE STUDENTS



WHAT IS THIS STUDY GUIDE ABOUT?

This Study Guide has been created for students to learn more about the Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement. The Tyler Prize is the equivalent of the Nobel Prize – but for environmental science. Have you heard of names such as Jane Goodall and E.O. Wilson? Both are conservationists who have been awarded the Tyler Prize in previous years!

ACTIVITIES FOR THIS STUDY GUIDE: A FEW QUICK NOTES

This discussion guide is intended to provide you with thought-provoking content and questions about environmental change, climate change, and how this connects with human health.

The below activities can be done in groups, pairs or individually.

Before we look at the challenges facing the natural world – we first want to acknowledge that some students may already be feeling some climate

anxiety, or have conflicting opinions on the term ‘climate change’.

That said, young people can also feel empowered when they can voice their thoughts, and feel like they have agency in the issues that affect them.

In these discussions, we encourage you to think of this as an opportunity to reflect on how we interact with our natural world, and changes we may like to champion in ourselves, families and communities.

IF THE PHRASE
‘CLIMATE CHANGE’
IS NOT OFTEN
USED IN YOUR
COMMUNITY, YOU
MAY INSTEAD LIKE
TO USE THE PHRASE
**‘ENVIRONMENTAL
CHANGE’** IN THESE
ACTIVITIES.

WHAT IS THE TYLER PRIZE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ACHIEVEMENT?

All over the world, scientists, economists, and researchers are working to safeguard humanity, by protecting the planet we call home. Some of these individuals have been recognized for their achievements by ‘The Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement’, which was established in 1973.

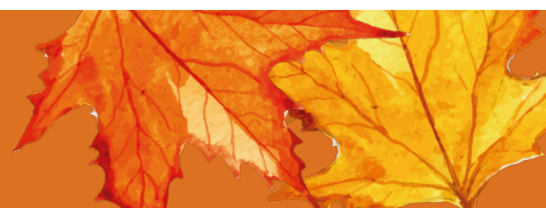


Winner of the 2022 Tyler Prize: Professor Sir Andy Haines

Professor Sir Andy Haines is the Tyler Prize Laureate for 2022. He started off as a young medical student in London, and grew up to be a doctor working all over the world. He noticed the damaging effects environmental changes were having on human health, and dedicated his career to studying how the environment and human health are linked.

Useful vocabulary for Sir Andy’s work:

- **Medicine:** Traditionally focuses inside the human body.
- **Public Health:** Focuses on actions of groups, and how this impacts health - such as how diseases pass from one person to another, or how hospitals serve a population.
- **Planetary Health:** Focuses on how changes in the natural world impact our health.



ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY 1: GROUP DISCUSSION

Think:

Think about **the food you eat**.

- Did your grandparents eat different food to you?
- Have you met anyone who ate different styles of food to you? What was different?
- Have you noticed any new foods available since you were a child?

Think about **transport**.

- How has transport changed in the last 80 years?
- Have you seen any changes to transport in your area, such as roads, trains, scooters and bicycles, or infrastructure like electric car charging ports?

Think about **your local area, your country, and the planet**.

- How has the natural world changed in these places in the last 80 years?
- What changes are natural, and what was caused by humans?

Discuss:

- What do you think of when you hear the words 'climate change'?
- What concerns do you have about climate change?
- Do you talk about climate change with others? How have these conversations made you feel?

ACTIVITY 2: ENGAGE WITH THE 2022 TYLER PRIZE LAUREATE LECTURE

NEXT, WE WILL WATCH A 'LAUREATE LECTURE', WHERE SIR ANDY HAINES TALKS ABOUT HIS WORK IN CLIMATE CHANGE AND PLANETARY HEALTH. BUT FIRST, LET'S GO THROUGH SOME SCIENTIFIC VOCABULARY HE USES.



Useful vocabulary for video viewing:

Planetary boundaries:

The environmental limits within which humanity can safely operate.

Co-benefits: These are added benefits we get when we act to control climate change, above and beyond the direct benefits of a more stable climate.

Emissions: The gases and particles which are put into the air or emitted by various sources.

Mitigation: The action of reducing the severity, seriousness, or painfulness of something. In the context of climate change, this generally means reducing the climate change effect by reducing carbon emissions.

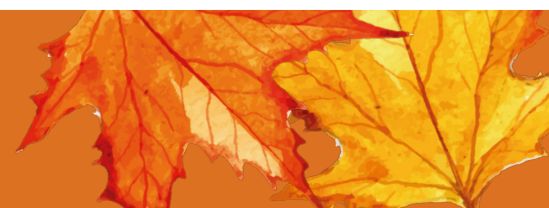
Adaptation: The action or process of adapting to climate change, such as increased flood protection.

Watch:

The 12-minute Laureate Lecture [here](#).

Discuss:

- What is Planetary Health?
- What examples does Sir Andy Haines give of climate change impacting on human health?
- What are the co-benefits of reducing emissions for the environment and human health?
- Were you surprised by any of the information you heard in the video?
- Does the video make you want to do anything differently in your own life or with your family/community?
- Can you think of measures that could be taken which would be both good for the environment and the health of people in your community?



Optional Projects

Class debate: How should our community encourage individuals to make climate responsible choices? The balance between individual freedom and public good is always worthy of community discussion. Pick one factor of Planetary Health, such as active transport, and organize a debate for and against taking the necessary steps.

Practice behavior change: Produce a campaign for government leaders OR the general public to convince them to adopt a change which would

fit with the model of Planetary Health. What are some changes that would be good for citizens, as well as having a 'co-benefit' for the planet: e.g. dietary changes, reduction in emissions, etc.

Practice active citizenship: Write a draft letter to your local elected official or politician outlining the Planetary Health model and some changes that may have a positive impact on your community. These changes should emphasize local benefits. For example: communities in drought-affected areas may choose to focus on switching from beef to

pea production to use less water, or communities impacted by traffic congestion may focus on the benefits of active transport.

Visual Activity: Produce a concept map or sketch note, which depicts the relationships between the various elements of Planetary Health, such as the environment, human activity, climate change, and its outcomes. (An explainer on what sketch notes are can be found [here](#)).

ACTIVITY 3 (EXTENSION): BECOMING A CHANGE MAKER

Watch:

To learn more about the Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement, view [this 5-minute minute](#) video about this year's Laureate.

Discuss:

- What is the Tyler Prize is for?
- What are some of the threats to human health that are caused by climate change?
- What might the planet be like as a place to live if we don't do anything about climate change?



Optional Projects

Learning about change makers: What challenges might Tyler Prize winners face during their lives? Is it easy to create change? Choose any Tyler Prize Laureate since 1973 ([full list here](#)), and discuss what barriers or challenges they faced during their lives. Some famous Laureates have detailed profiles online – like Michael Mann, Jane Goodall and Warren Washington. Were these Tyler Prize winners completely successful in creating the changes they wanted?

Celebrate a change maker: Do you know of any environmental change makers who have tried to make the planet a better place? On Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, or Twitter, post about your chosen change maker, and argue why they should win the Tyler Prize. Tag @TylerPrize.

RESOURCES FOR LEARNING MORE

[Tylerprize.org](#) | Follow Tyler Prize on social media: [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Twitter](#)
[Planetary Health Alliance](#) | [United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change](#)
[Centre on Climate Change and Planetary Health, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine](#)



TYLER PRIZE
for Environmental Achievement

