

# Planet Hero! Greta Thunberg



People and Planet

## World-famous climate activist!

Greta Thunberg was born in Stockholm, Sweden, on January 3, 2003. At eight years old, she began learning about climate change, and quickly became frustrated with how little was being done to stop it. Her anger grew and grew, until in August 2018, she decided to act.

Instead of going to school, 15-year-old Greta made a large sign that read 'SCHOOL STRIKE FOR CLIMATE' and sat alone with it outside the Swedish Parliament. She stayed there for almost three weeks, demanding urgent climate action from the politicians that passed her.

The protest attracted international attention, and by the time Greta returned to school, she had inspired hundreds of



thousands of other students from around the world. Together, they began 'Fridays for Future' strikes – skipping school on Fridays to protest for action on climate change.

In the following years, Greta gave speeches to politicians at globally important climate events, appeared in documentaries, articles, and books. She was even nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize in 2019, 2020 and 2021!

### Did you know?

- Before she began campaigning publicly, Greta **convinced her family** to become **vegan** and give up **flying** to help the planet!
- Greta is known for speaking **frankly** and **honestly**. She's not afraid to stand up to grown-ups – including world leaders!
- In 2019, Greta became the **youngest person ever** to win Time magazine's 'Person of the Year' award.

**FUN FACT!**  
In March 2019, Greta inspired the first **Global Strike for Climate**. Over **1.6 million people** from **125 countries** took part!

Greta has **Asperger's Syndrome**, so her brain sometimes works in a **different way** to others. She describes autism as her '**superpower**', as it helps her stay **focused** on her passion.

Greta attends an international climate meeting.

