

# Planet Hero!

## Alexandria Villaseñor



People and Planet

### Teen climate activist and founder of Earth Uprising!

Alexandria was born on May 18, 2005, and has always loved nature! During a trip when she was 13, Alexandria's asthma was triggered by the heavy smoke of Californian wildfires – despite being over 100 miles away. After rushing back to the safety of her home in New York City, Alexandria began researching the link between wildfires and climate change.

The more she learned, the more Alexandria became determined to fight for climate action, and in December 2018, she decided to act. For over a year, Alexandria spent every Friday missing school to strike outside the United Nations headquarters. Like her inspiration, Greta Thunberg,



Alexandria speaks about inequality at an event in 2019.

Alexandria began protesting alone, but other people soon began to join her – and on April 22, 2019, she founded a non-profit organisation named Earth Uprising to unite them all.

Through Earth Uprising, Alexandria works to connect and educate youth activists from around the world. Being Latina herself, she hopes to encourage a diverse range of young people to get involved and speak out!

#### Did you know?

- During her protests outside the UN, Alexandria would sit on a bench for 4-6 hours a day, in all weathers. The bench has now earned the nickname, 'Alexandria's Bench'!
- Alexandria likes to relax by reading or playing Animal Crossing!
- When things get tough, support from her family and the amazing people she's met through activism keep Alexandria going.

#### FUN FACT!

Earth Uprising now has ambassadors in over 50 countries, and in cities across the United States!



Alexandria (middle) protests alongside Greta Thunberg and friends!

#### FUN FACT!

Alexandria was one of three co-founders of the US Youth Climate Strike in 2019