

## Lesson Plan

### Being an Activist

**Book:** *Greta Thunberg: Climate Activist*

**Series:** Important Women

**Level:** Beacon

### Objective

To help students explore the relationship between individual actions and social change.

### Supplies

- *Greta Thunberg: Climate Activist* book
- Whiteboard
- Pencils and paper

### Before the Activity

Read through the *Greta Thunberg: Climate Activist* book, or assign it to students to read on their own. Divide students into groups of four. Make sure each student has a pencil and paper.

### Activity

Greta Thunberg did a school strike to send a message to Sweden's leaders and raise awareness about climate change. In groups, students should brainstorm answers to the following questions:

- How might a strike be an effective way to make change?
- What other actions can individuals take to raise awareness and make change?

After a few minutes, invite groups to share their ideas with the class. Write students' answers on the whiteboard. Then, have students individually think about issues that are important to them. They could be global issues such as climate change or local issues such as allowing cell phones in a classroom. Each student will write a paragraph of at least five sentences that answers the following questions:

- What is one social issue that is important to me and why?
- What are three actions that I could take on this issue?
- How might these actions raise awareness of the issue and create change?

**Evaluation**

Could students work in groups to brainstorm individual actions that can create social change?  
Could students clearly articulate their ideas on activism in writing?

**Standards**

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational text, grade 4 (RI 4.1), and writing standards, grade 4 (W 4.1), and the National Council for the Social Studies standard 5.