

# WANGARI MAATHAI



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THE PEACE MUSEUM

## Women of Peace Wangari Maathai Fact Sheet

Wangari was born on 1<sup>st</sup> April 1940 in Kenya, Africa. She was an environmentalist, which means she worked to protect the earth. Her mother and grandmother taught her that the families' ancestors rest in the shade of the trees. So, from a young age Wangari promised to look after the trees and to love nature.

She did very well in school and was chosen to study in the United States at age 20, studying the sciences. It was there she started to learn about protecting the environment. When Wangari returned to Kenya she began teaching at a university. She discovered that women were given lower pay than the men at her work. She fought to change that and gained equal rights for women at the university.

Wangari started The Greenbelt Movement when she realised how badly the land was being treated. It was then she started to plant trees and encouraged others to help. The Greenbelt Movement employs women to plant trees all over Kenya. This helps women feel more empowered and helps the environment.

Her environmental work won her the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004, which is a prize given to people who are making the world a better place. Wangari was the first African woman to win the prize and the first environmentalist. She died in 2011 but her work still goes on.

## Word Search

T	U	E	R	K	U	R	Y	T	U	I	P	O	U	S	F	D	E
F	N	E	R	E	D	R	E	A	N	V	D	V	I	D	R	N	H
W	I	P	R	N	R	O	U	R	N	Y	D	E	R	M	V	E	Y
E	T	M	E	Y	T	R	A	I	C	V	E	R	I	I	T	M	C
T	E	O	P	A	U	L	A	N	C	T	I	C	R	O	T	O	U
N	D	T	C	R	A	Y	N	E	S	S	E	M	D	R	F	W	O
M	S	G	E	L	T	I	N	U	M	E	E	S	E	A	M	E	R
U	T	T	O	P	O	T	A	B	T	N	E	E	D	F	S	E	F
I	A	M	A	H	N	I	F	I	T	C	S	E	I	N	T	L	T
J	T	D	R	A	C	O	B	A	U	N	E	C	O	R	O	M	A
T	E	N	E	C	E	R	L	Y	R	U	M	I	B	D	S	H	E
O	S	P	R	I	N	I	A	P	L	I	T	Y	Q	U	A	K	S
P	E	I	M	O	S	C	I	E	N	C	E	S	D	O	I	D	M
P	R	Y	B	T	E	D	T	I	G	L	L	T	B	H	E	E	M
F	E	Z	I	R	P	E	C	A	E	P	L	E	B	O	N	N	D
D	A	B	O	M	B	A	S	G	T	I	C	A	L	E	A	I	N
X	R	B	O	Q	U	E	I	N	E	E	S	D	S	L	E	D	G
G	R	E	E	N	B	E	L	T	M	O	V	E	M	E	N	T	R

Answer the questions to find the words you search for.

1. What country is Wangari from?
2. What are you called when you protect the earth?
3. From a young age what did Wangari promise to look after?
4. Where did she go to study at the age of 20?
5. What did she study?
6. What was her movement called?
7. Who did she employ to plant trees?
8. What prize was she the first African woman to win?