

John Muir and Aldo Leopold helped to preserve, or protect, nature and wild lands. Read about the lives and accomplishments of John Muir and Aldo Leopold listed on the resumes below.

John Muir (1838–1914)

Early Life:

- Born 1838 in Scotland
- Grew up on a farm in Wisconsin
- Studied plant science, or botany, and geology



John Muir in Yosemite Valley on California quarter

Legacy and Activism:

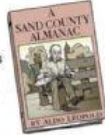
- Helped establish Yosemite National Park
- Showed people the value of preserving nature
- Woods named for him; appears on U.S. quarter
- Founded Sierra Club, which works to protect wild places

Career and Experiences:

Aldo Leopold (1887–1948)

Early Life:

- Born 1887 in Iowa
- Explored woods near his home during childhood
- Studied forestry at Yale University



Aldo Leopold's popular essays about experiences with nature

Legacy and Activism:

- Proposed the first wilderness area in a national forest, the Gila Wilderness in New Mexico
- Helped people understand importance of keeping wild lands and ecosystems healthy
- Wilderness area named for him
- Helped start a society for wildlife specialists

Career and Experiences:

Career and Experiences:

- Wrote many articles and books
- Lived in a cabin on Yosemite Creek in California
- Explored Alaska and fought to preserve many natural areas such as the Grand Canyon

Writings:

- Wrote *A Thousand-Mile Walk to the Gulf*, journal of his walk from Indiana to the Gulf of Mexico



John Muir legacy: some areas protected in U.S. today

Career and Experiences:

- Taught courses on care of wild animals and their habitats at University of Wisconsin
- Worked for the U.S. Forest Service
- Developed plans to care for forests

Writings:

- Wrote *A Sand County Almanac*



Aldo Leopold legacy: some areas protected in U.S. today

Your principal is deciding whether to name a new scholarship for John Muir or Aldo Leopold. She wants to choose a person who was **dedicated to protecting nature**.

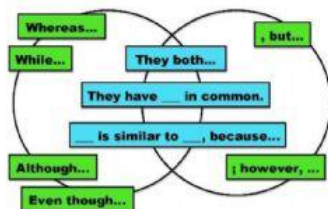
On the next page, you will write a letter to your principal explaining **whom the scholarship should be named for and why**.

Think carefully about these questions to get ideas for your writing.

- How might the United States be different without the legacy and activism of Aldo Leopold and John Muir?
- How are the two resumes similar? How are they different?
- Which person is a better choice for the scholarship name?
- How can you summarize the reasons for your choice?

Reason 1	Reason 2	Reason 3

Compare and Contrast



Write a letter to your principal explaining why you choose John Muir or Aldo Leopold for the new scholarship's name. **Compare and contrast** details from both resumes to support your choice.

Now check your writing. Ask yourself:

- Did I write a beginning?
- Did I support my main points with details?
- Did I write an ending?
- Did I choose the best words for my writing?
- Did I organize my writing?
- Did I make my ideas clear?