

# Global Perspectives on Wilderness

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These lesson plans will encourage students to better understand the significance of *The Wilderness Act* as well as how global perspectives on wilderness differ from the American paradigm. More specifically, these lesson plans look at the impact of changing perspectives on wilderness in the United States, exclusionary practices regarding native peoples, global perspectives on wilderness looking specifically at Africa, Latin America, and Australia, and the importance of *The Land and Water Conservation Fund Act*.

These lessons were created to benefit university educators from multiple disciplines and they can be utilized individually or as a unit. The lesson plans contains analytical questions for class discussion followed by activities. While the activities were created for groups, many of them can be made into individual projects or assignments. When used as a unit, these lessons encourage students to analyze the global impact of *The Wilderness Act*. “50 Years of Wilderness in the United States” and “Can Humans Coexist with Wilderness?” encourage students to look at the significance of *The Wilderness Act* and think about the concept of wilderness. “Native Peoples and Wilderness: A Study on Exclusionary Practices in Canada” examines the precarious state of affairs regarding indigenous peoples and national parks in North America. “A Modern, American Perspective on Wilderness” analyzes wilderness in an increasingly politically polarized American society and evaluates the impact of *The Wilderness Act* in the United States. “An African Perspective on Wilderness,” “A Latin American Perspective on Wilderness,” and “An Australian Perspective on Wilderness” compare and contrast the American paradigm of wilderness with global examples in Africa, Latin America, and Australia, respectively. “Pictorial Perspectives on Wilderness and the Land and Water Conservation Fund” examines the importance of the oft overlooked, and arguably more significant *Land and Water Conservation Fund Act*. As a whole, these lessons encourage students to analyze the significance of *The Wilderness Act* in the United States while examining how preservation of wilderness differs from the prevailing American paradigm around the globe.

### **Lesson Plans:**

- “50 Years of Wilderness in the United States”
- “Can Humans Coexist with Wilderness?”
- “Native Peoples and Wilderness: A Study on Exclusionary Practices in Canada”
- “An African Perspective on Wilderness”
- “A Modern, American Perspective on Wilderness”
- “A Latin American Perspective on Wilderness”
- “An Australian Perspective on Wilderness”
- “Pictorial Perspectives on Wilderness and the Land and Water Conservation Fund”

## Articles:

- William Cronon. *The Trouble with Nature, or Getting Back to the Wrong Nature*.
- Theodore Binnema and Melanie Niemi. "Let the Line be Drawn Now" *Wilderness, Conservation, and the Exclusion of Aboriginal People from Banff National Park in Canada*.
- Frode Sundnes. *Scrubs and Squatters: The Coming of the Dukuduku Forest, an Indigenous Forest in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa*.
- Donald Worster. *The Higher Altruism*.
- Emily Wakild. *Acts of Courage, Acts of Culture: The Wilderness Act in Latin America*.
- Libby Robin. *Wilderness in a Global Age, Fifty Years On*.
- Sara Dant. *LBJ, Wilderness, and the Land and Water Conservation Fund*.

## Primary Sources:

- Excerpts from "The Wilderness Act," Public Law 88-577
- Canada's Aboriginal "Treaty No. 1"
- Canada's Aboriginal "Treaty No. 3"
- Canada's Aboriginal "Treaty No. 6"
- Canada's Aboriginal "Treaty No. 10"
- American Views toward the Environment, a public opinion chart from the Environmental Values Survey
- Political Views and the Environment, a public opinion chart from the American Environmental Values Survey
- Excerpts from "Land and Water Conservation Fund Act," Public Law 88-578