



# George Perkins Marsh

Brennan Faust APES

# The man, the myth, the legend!

- Born in 1801 in Woodstock, Vermont. Died in 1882 in Vallombrosa, Italy.
- Graduated from Dartmouth College in 1820.
- A politician, diplomat, and philologist (someone who studies the language in written historical sources)



# Contributions to Environmental Science.

- George published several books that spoke about the environment and how we should use our resources; such as “Man and Nature” and “The Earth has modified by Human action”. Although he never referred to himself as a conservationist, his ideas as presented in these books paved the way for the environmental movement in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In the book “Man and Nature” his thesis was that due to deforestation ,caused by over-logging, desertification would occur. Today we can observe that as soil in arid regions degrade, the deserts grow larger year after year. Along we this was the idea of sustainable resource use. He believed the Earth was given to us to use and better our lives but we should take care of it and be its “shepard”.

# How does this fit into our learning of APES?

- One of the main principles of modern environmental science is the idea of sustainable resource use. Marsh provided the foundation for this thinking and actively promoted it in his lifetime. The biggest question of our time is how we can provide for the humans on Earth while not destroying our home in the process.



# Sources

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