Boys Who Grew Up to Change the

David Attenborough Don McPherson

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David Attenborough (Born 1926)

David's parents were teachers, so he grew up in the grounds of a university, surrounded by travelling professors, thick books and talk of fabulous new discoveries.

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What fascinated him most of all was the natural world and he spent hours outside hunting for fossils, shells and eggs.

23 EN 93 03 47 EN 43 4 F David went to university to carry on his study of nature, then he joined the navy, hoping to catch a glimpse of it. Thrilled to finally venture out into the world, he was annoyed when they only sent him as far as Wales! Once he'd completed his service, he went to the BBC and asked if he could present shows about wildlife to the British public. The bosses were reluctant to put him on TV. There weren't many programmes about the natural world and they weren't sure that anyone would want to watch them. They also thought that David's teeth were too big and that no one would want to watch him either.

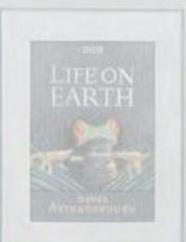
BBC

They couldn't have been more wrong.

By lying patiently in wait for days, weeks and months, the film crews that have worked alongside David caught some of the most beautiful shots of animals that have ever existed. His shows have brought people face to face with gapingmouthed anglerfish, illuminating the seabed with the glowing bulbs that hang from their heads. Viewers have seen sneaky cuckoos, slipping their own eggs into the nests of other birds.

They have even been able to watch lions chasing, catching and feasting on zebras and gazelles from the safety of their living rooms. David brought the exciting, magical and bizarre world of nature into the homes of millions of viewers. And he wasn't just entertaining them; he was letting them know about the magnificent creatures with which we share out planet, the dangers those creatures face and what we can do to help save them.





More than ten plants and animals have been named after David. When the British Antarctic Survey built a new ship to patrol the icy polar waters, they named that after him too: the RRS Sir David Attenborough.

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SIR DAVID ATTENBOROUGH

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Don McPherson (Born 1965)

Don McPherson was a famous American football player, but he never really felt comfortable playing sports. He didn't like how competitive it was. He didn't like how tough everyone acted. And he especially didn't like how people treated each other.

A lot of things didn't make sense to him.

Why do we look up to people just because they can throw or kick a ball? Why are we so aggressive when we play? Is that a good way to act? And why do men insult each other by saying, 'You throw like a girl'? Why would you talk about women being less able? What does that say about you?

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Instead of playing football, Don now travels the country, talking to young people about masculinity, feminism and sports. Especially in sports, he thinks that men often think and talk about women in negative ways, and that thinking and talking has consequences. Girls often stop playing sports at school because they've lost their confidence. Right now, all across the world, women are feeling unsafe because of how they're treated by men. Don believes that the way to end this isn't just to treat women better ourselves, but to stand up and say something when we see people who aren't. 'You can do this,' he says. 'We can do this. Together, men and women can build a safer world.'



