

Dear Dr. Jane Goodall,

Hello, my name is Gavin McCormack, and I am a Grade 8 student at our local school. I am writing to you because I am deeply concerned about the global issue of food waste, which directly impacts our environment and aligns with Sustainable Development Goal 12 - Responsible Consumption and Production.

Your lifelong dedication to environmental conservation and sustainable practices inspires me, and I believe your insights could greatly assist me in advocating for change within my community.

Every year, millions of tonnes of food are wasted around the globe, contributing to unnecessary environmental strain, including increased greenhouse gas emissions and wastage of water and other resources. This issue not only affects environmental health but also squanders the hard work of those who produce and transport our food. Inspired by your commitment to sustainability, I am eager to understand how small, community-driven actions can contribute to global solutions. As we reflect on this, I am reminded of a few lines that capture the urgency and responsibility we share:

Wasted food, a global shame,
Resources spent, all in vain.
Together strong, we can amend,
Make food last, from start to end.

Your work teaches us the importance of every individual's role in conservation efforts. This perspective encourages me to think globally but act locally, starting with initiatives that minimize food waste at school and within our local community. I am motivated by the belief that, as you have shown through your work, committed individuals can catalyze real change.

Could you please share advice on how to effectively initiate and maintain projects that reduce food waste? What strategies have you found most effective in engaging communities and stakeholders in sustainable practices? Furthermore, how can we, as young students, use our voices and actions to contribute to a healthier planet by addressing the issue of food waste?

Thank you very much for considering my letter. I eagerly anticipate the possibility of hearing from you and applying your esteemed advice to make a tangible and positive difference in our community. Your guidance could inspire not just me, but many others in my generation to take meaningful action towards a more sustainable future.

Yours sincerely,
Gavin McCormack



Ten Tips to Write a Letter that Includes an Impactful Poem

- **Start with a polite greeting:** Begin your letter with a formal salutation like "Dear Dr. Goodall," or "Hello Dr. Goodall," showing respect and setting a courteous tone for your message.
- **Introduce yourself clearly:** Share a bit about who you are. Mention your name, age, grade, and school. This helps the reader connect with you personally and understand your background.
- **Explain why you are writing:** State the purpose of your letter in the beginning. Are you seeking advice, raising awareness, or proposing a solution? Being clear about your intent grabs the reader's attention.
- **Be specific about your topic:** When discussing topics like SDG 12, clearly explain what it is and why it matters to you. This shows that you've done your homework and are genuinely interested in the subject.
- **Include personal insights or experiences:** Share your personal connection to the topic. Perhaps mention a project at school or a local initiative you're involved with. This makes your letter unique and memorable.
- **Use creative elements like a poem or quote:** Including a poem or a relevant quote can make your letter stand out. It adds depth and shows that you've thought deeply about the issue.
- **Ask insightful questions:** Pose thoughtful questions to engage the reader and demonstrate your curiosity. This can encourage a response and foster a meaningful exchange of ideas.
- **Maintain a respectful tone:** Always be respectful, even if you are discussing problems or challenges. A polite tone is more likely to elicit a positive response from the reader.
- **Express gratitude:** Thank the person for taking the time to read your letter. This is not only polite but also shows that you value their time and potential input.
- **Close your letter formally:** End with a respectful closing such as "Yours sincerely" or "Best regards," followed by your name. If you're writing on paper, leave space to sign your name above your printed name.