



Foreign Language Virtual Learning

# The Nature of Happiness

May 5, 2020



## 6th Grade Foreign Cultures

### Lesson: May 5, 2020

#### **Objective/Learning Target:**

I can investigate human behavior from biological, cognitive, and sociocultural perspectives.

Warm Up: Why would happiness be important to a community's success? What is the difference socially, economically, educationally, between a happy place and an unhappy place?





If necessary, watch the film about Johnny Barnes, “[Mr. Happy Man](#)” again.



For these last prompts, make a copy of the [slideshow](#) and thoroughly answer the prompts. Use the links in the prompts to add to your knowledge base of where happiness comes from and how it benefits society.

Just as quotes from a book or text are used to prove an analytical thought, use the film to justify their reasoning. Share the slideshow with your teacher when you finish.



Is happiness a choice? This question is explored on [Debate.org](https://www.debate.org), a free online debate forum. Visit the website and read two arguments for “yes” and two arguments for “no”. In a paragraph, describe why you agree or disagree with one of the arguments. Use the film and your own experiences to support your point of view.



Jane Goodall, educator and primatologist, says, “ I have many kinds of happiness. I’m completely happy when I’m alone in nature... I’m really happy when I sit around with friends in the evening, particularly around a campfire where we can tell stories... I’m totally happy when I’m walking with a dog. Dogs make me really, really, happy because you can just be yourself with a dog.”\* Write a paragraph, similar to Goodall’s description. What are some things in your life that make you feel content and happy? Why?



As portrayed in the film, a statue of Johnny Barnes was commissioned and erected at the Hamilton traffic circle in his honor. Imagine that you are chosen to write a plaque for the base of the statue. Create a one-sentence inscription honoring Johnny Barnes. In a paragraph, describe the reasoning behind your inscription.





## Additional Resources

Brigid Schulte, "[Why the U.S. rating on the World Happiness Report is lower than it should be – and how to change it.](#)" *The Washington Post*, May 11, 2015.