



## Fionn Ferreira

Fionn Ferreira's commitment to science and sustainability earned him international recognition as the Grand Prize winner of the Google Science Fair. He completed his Chemistry degree at the University of Groningen and is now pursuing a Master's. He continues developing innovative solutions to environmental issues, driven by his early experiences with plastic waste on Ireland's coast.

### KEY TOPICS

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- **Shifting From Awareness To Action**
- **Break Traditional Thinking Patterns to Spark Creativity and Innovation**
- **Integrating Innovative Plastic Reduction Strategies**
- **Thrive in Changing and Uncertain Environments**

### BIOGRAPHY

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## Fionn Ferreira Speaker: Championing Environmental Innovation

That was the spark that really got him going. As he learnt more about the microplastics in our environment, including emerging research suggesting we may be consuming the equivalent of a credit card's worth of plastic every week through contaminated food and water—that's when he realised just how serious this problem was. There were links to health issues like Alzheimer's and cancer. At 16, he started tinkering with LEGO parts, bits of wood and microcontrollers. He began to wonder: what if he could find a way to remove those microplastics? That was the start of his journey as an **environmental activist** and **anti-plastic pollution innovator**—a field that was still emerging in terms of public awareness and innovation. *His mission quickly evolved into one of environmental stewardship and a sustainability advocate, driven by Fionn's insatiable curiosity and a deep commitment to a sustainable future.* With every breakthrough, he contributed to the growing body of sustainability Fionn discusses, and he was just getting started.

## The Magnet-Based Method

Innovation often springs from necessity—and that was certainly true for [Fionn Ferreira](#). When he realised just how little we have in the way of efficient removal methods for microplastics, he decided to take matters into his own hands. That's when Fionn built his first prototype after many failed attempts. His invention—a magnetic liquid-based system—really delivered on its promise to remove microplastics from water. Not only was it effective, but it was also environmentally safe and cost-effective, offering a potential breakthrough in addressing the plastic pollution crisis. That caught the world's attention. Winning the Global Grand Prize at the [Google Science Fair in 2019](#)—after participating in several science fairs—was just the first of many recognitions Fionn's invention received from the scientific and industry communities. In 2020, he founded **Fionn & Co. LLC** and the **Green Journey Coalition**, a nonprofit initiative he co-founded to expand his environmental advocacy. Those platforms let him build on his research and refine his device to better target issues like plastic washing in ocean water. Support from people like Robert Downey Jr and his Footprint Coalition helped Fionn continue to push the boundaries of his work—and find new collaborations to expand its impact in solving the plastics puzzle.

## Fionn Ferreira's Arctic Expeditions and Global Talks

Fionn Ferreira's environmental research knows no borders. He's been to the Arctic, Svalbard, Greenland and Canada. These expeditions were key to his research on plastics and pollution and gave him invaluable insights into environmental challenges in some of the most pristine places on the planet — a testament to how imaginative exploration enlarges our understanding of the natural world. Fionn is a **global keynote speaker** and a **sought-after voice** at international events. From the [World Economic Forum](#) to the [National Geographic Explorers Summit](#), his talk embodies passion, purpose and science-backed solutions. Fionn discusses his groundbreaking work with audiences around the world, exploring how space and Earth-based science intersect to address urgent environmental issues. Being a National Geographic Young Explorer in 2021, a European Patent Office Young Inventors prize winner in 2023 and being in [Forbes 30 Under 30](#) proves his impact and achievements in the field. In the universe Fionn spent years researching, he's shown how bioplastics and microplastic removal can transform our future. He draws inspiration from legends like Martin Luther King, merging science and social responsibility. His voice echoes across a vast universe of ideas, rooted in curiosity and commitment. This is the universe Fionn continues to explore with purpose.

## Contributing to a Circular Economy

Fionn Ferreira's passion for a circular economy goes far beyond his research. Fionn believes in championing sustainability at every level—he's a driving force behind that movement—and you can see that in his work with **Method's Youth Advisory Board**. That role—and his appearances in campaigns like **Emporio Armani's** sustainable line in 2022—shows just how committed he is to sustainable practices and sustainable management, a fundamental concept that guides all his efforts. That commitment to making a difference extends to other areas of his life. Fionn is working on a TV series and a children's book that aim to inspire the next generation to create a more sustainable world. He also regularly contributes to public discourse on environmental innovation, pushing the boundaries of how we think about sustainability. His academic journey—Chemistry at the University of Groningen, and a master's degree in the works—speaks to his dedication to scientific excellence and exploring creative outlets that merge education, science and storytelling. From concerned kayaker to **global environmental innovator**, Fionn Ferreira's journey is a testament to what can be achieved when you're driven by passion and perseverance. His work on microplastics in water isn't just about solving a critical environmental issue—it's about reducing zero waste, learning from failed attempts, and creating solutions on a large scale that bring us closer to a truly sustainable world.

## Get Inspired by Fionn Ferreira's Journey - Book Him for Your Next Event

Discover the remarkable story of Fionn Ferreira—a *young innovator whose passion for environmental sustainability began with building early prototypes to tackle microplastic pollution*. Now a **sought-after keynote speaker**, his journey through international science fairs has earned him global recognition. Along the way, he's debunked a few mythbusters, challenging common misconceptions about **environmental solutions**—mythbusters ultimately resulting in smarter, more creative approaches. But it's his belief in the power of creativity and curiosity that truly sets him apart. Fionn shows us that imaginative thinking can drive real-world change and how the universe encourages those who dare to think differently. Book him for your next event or [get in touch](#) to learn how his mission is shaping a better future for all of us.