

## ACTION SHEET

Aims and Skills targeted, Aims & description, Results.

**GIVITL17:** RITA LEVI MONTALCINI, academic perseverance for the human race (20 th c.)

**Participants:** 27 Italian students

**Date:** 03/05/2021 **Place:** Cerignola, Italy

**Aims and skills targeted:**

- To get to know and study an Italian scientist of clear international fame.
- To understand and interpret the meaning and value of the scientific method
- To know how to apply the scientific method in a real context
- To know how to select information and use computer data and websites
- To raise students' awareness of ecological and environmental issues, through scientific, historical and literary research
- To stimulate reflection on the relationship between our daily actions, more generally our lifestyles, and the worsening of certain forms of pollution
- To acquire a social conscience that leads to compliance with rules and regulations
- To stimulate the ability to argue issues and to search for suitable solutions

**Description:**

This fascinating training course on the figure of Rita Levi Montalcini began with the vision of a short autobiographical video and the sharing of the characteristic traits of her professional action. It was an important motivational start that allowed to know the human and professional richness of this new female figure and to experience the importance of the scientific method. Subsequently, according to the logic of "learning by doing", the students, acting as "scientists", carried out an experimental activity on the "Ecological Footprint". This research was based on the following points: an initial data collection to measure the eco-sustainability of each student's lifestyle by means of a quiz freely accessible at the following link: <https://www.footprintcalculator.org/>; and a comparative analysis of the personal data with the average of their peer students, Italians, Europeans and finally with the World average. Later, learners, working in heterogeneous groups, produced graphs in order to become even more aware of the need to improve their lifestyle and habits. The activity ended with the sharing of good practices aimed precisely at releasing a lower "ecological footprint" on our planet.

**Results:**

The students, through the realization of this laboratory activity, have managed to achieve the objectives required in this work:

1. Knowledge and in-depth study of a scientist of international stature
2. Implementation of an experimental activity by the scientific method.
3. Clear and effective communication in promoting innovative attitudes in debates, even divergent but always respectful of others.
4. Promotion of research on extremely topical issues and problems.

