

Our World, Ontario Video Transcript

(Photo slideshow of Ontario's people, animals, and plants with accompanying text narrated by 8 different voices. *MV = Main Voice, W1 – Woman 1, W2 = Woman 2, M1 = Man 1, M2 = Man 2, M3 = Man 3, TEEN = teenager, CHILD = young girl, ALL = everyone, KIDS = Teen and Child*).

[Earth seen from space]

MV: This is earth...The only planet known to sustain life. An amazingly beautiful world.

[Zoom in to map of province of Ontario]

W1: And this is Ontario. *Our* special place in this beautiful world.

M1: A place so diverse, it's really a world unto itself.

ALL: *Our* world, Ontario. A world of wonders

W2: And we are not alone!

MV: We share this world of ours, Ontario With creatures great and small ...

[Photos of deer, woodland caribou, wolverine, badger, rabbit, bear, lynx, snake, frog, crane]

CHILD: Some furry

TEEN: Some scaly and slippery ...

W1: Airborne ...

M2: Soon to be airborne ...

TEEN: Underwater ...

CHILD: Over water!

W2: A world filled with colour

[Colourful photos of aphids, fungi, bluebirds, grass]

CHILD: Red!

TEEN: Yellow!

M1: Blue!

W1: Green!

M3: And everything in between!

[Photos of scenery – waterfall, swamp, forest, canyon]

M2: It looks like this ... this ...and this.

W2: All of it amazing ...

M2: All of it Ontario!

MV: It took billions of years to give us all this. But it's been only recently, relatively speaking ...since we discovered that... everything in our world is linked.

[Words on screen – INTERTwined INTERconnected INTERdependent INTERActive]

KIDS: Everything is INTER twined

W1: INTER connected

M1: INTER dependent

MV: The web of life is ...

ALL: INTERActive!

M2: That means, what we protect today... will be here in the future. And what we save now will benefit not only people ... but many other species, too. ...

ALL: Because everything is interconnected!

MV: All of this is biodiversity. The incredible variety of life on earth. Ontario's biodiversity is all around us. It can be seen everywhere. For example... look at this!

This is a wetland. Our wetlands are vitally important

KIDS: Why?

[Photos of wetlands and birds, frog, turtles]

MV: Ontario's wetlands clean and store water ... And give birds ... Frogs ... Turtles and other creatures, a place to live. Biodiversity can be seen in the insects that pollinate Ontario's crops and gardens ... And in the green trees in a city park.

M1: Biodiversity moderates the climate...protects us from natural disasters.

[Photos of cotton, hydroelectric dam, Echinacea, farmer and field of corn]

W1: It's the source of our fibres...fuel, energy...

M3: Lots of medicines and raw materials ...

W2: It helps to feed us all.

[Photos of fly-fishing, boys swimming, bicycling, sunset, canoeist, artist in park, native dancers]

TEEN: Gives us places to enjoy ...and be happy.

M1: Nurtures our bodies

W2: ...and our minds.

W1: Yes, nature's beauty feeds our spirits too ...Captures our emotions ...

TEEN: Makes us realize how much we have to be thankful for

M1: Nature ... and things natural ... the web of biodiversity ...is the inspiration for our art our music... our literature ...

M2: Indeed...it is the heritage of many of our cultures... But we're losing it. And we're losing it fast.

KIDS: Who's "we"?

MV: *We* are human beings – one species sharing our world with millions of other species. We're changing things ... and not for the better.

[Photos of environmental degradation and pollution]

W1: The effect on our world has been huge. We've altered the face of the land...water ... and sky.

MV: We've caused these changes by the way we live, ...the way our populations expand the way we move into areas humans never lived before ... crowding out others who once lived here undisturbed. The way we over-consume ... taking more than we need ... and wasting too much of it ... This leads to pollution ...and climate change.

[Photos of invasive species]

Modern travel makes the world smaller ... So things we call invasive species ... marine life insects... plants ... are brought into Ontario from far away... destroying, hurting and changing what lives here naturally.

[Black screen with word 'enough!']

ALL: Enough!

W1: Right now, we need to act. All of us, to protect what sustains us. There are solutions, and we *can* live more wisely.

M3: Since we made these things happen, we can help make them stop!

[Photos of people appreciating and enjoying nature]

W2: It starts with thinking ...understanding ...

M2: Stepping lightly on the land

W1: Respecting what is around us

M2: Enjoying without destroying ...

M1: getting acquainted with the creatures who live here with us... but leaving them where they belong.

[Photos of girl with magnifying glass, insect, squirrel birds]

CHILD: We can discover stuff! There's biodiversity living right in our own back yards

TEEN: In our neighbourhoods ...all around us!

CHILD: We can learn the names of animals and insects and birds and reptiles ...

[Photos of people doing community clean up, garden]

M3: We could volunteer to clean up a ravine or river or a park

CHILD: or to count frogs!

W2: We could get together with our neighbours and create a wildflower garden.

M1: We can make saving biodiversity fun!

TEEN: It could be cool.

[Photo of fair-trade coffee beans and forest stewardship council stamp on end of log]

M3: Sure, “cool,” but important too ... like buying environmentally friendly products.

W2: So get inspired

[Photos of people enjoying nature, tree planting, animals, plants]

M1: It’s our world, Ontario...

M2: It’s our home.

W1: ...and it’s our responsibility to take care of it.

MV: This is Ontario’s biodiversity. Natural...valued ...protected.

W2: So we should celebrate the beauty

M1: Make informed decisions

M2: Live locally

[Photos of vegetable garden, composting, recycling]

MV: Think...rethink...innovate! Reduce, reuse, recycle.

M2: Keep traditional knowledge and practices alive. Let your voices be heard.

ALL: Talk about it!

W1: Together we can stop the loss of biodiversity.

M3: Together we can keep our world, Ontario, full of life.

[Photos of earth, Ontario, expectant mother, sunrise]

MV: Doing this together is critical ... For us. For them. For those not yet here ...

ALL: We are all connected ...with other living things.

CHILD: And we must *act now*.

MV: We will make a world of difference if we do.

[Credits, music]