



[Journey to Planet Earth](#) is an award-winning documentary series that dramatizes new ways of looking at the delicate relationship between people and the world they inhabit. The series is designed to help students and adults understand and cope with the complexities of developing an agenda to deal with the most important environmental issues of the 21st century.

Through an interdisciplinary approach, these programs reach beyond the physical sciences and draw connections to politics, economics, anthropology, sociology, and history.

Each episode features thematically-related stories. Though photographed on different continents and focusing on different sets of problems, audiences come to see why all of these stories are connected, providing a dramatic mosaic of how the Earth works as an interrelated system. To achieve this end, [Journey to Planet Earth](#) cuts across the traditional disciplines that are involved in earth science and answers key questions about interactions that take place between the land, the oceans, and the atmosphere.

Episodes come on DVD or via Digital Streaming\*, are captioned for accessibility, and include:

- Full-length version (55 min.)
- Abridged version (25 min.) for use with shorter class periods
- Chaptered case studies
- Educators Guides that correlate to Next Generation Science Standards and National Science Education standards

**Digital Only: #1015 – DISPATCHES FROM THE GULF 2: Research • Innovation • Discovery** — Showcases remarkable stories from the unprecedented scientific mission to study the environmental impact of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. This hope-filled documentary explores new ways to ease environmental devastation. Some of the questions answered in the documentary include:

- Why are so many pregnant dolphins losing their young?
- Why did much of the oyster population in Louisiana disappear?
- Did Deepwater Horizon oil affect the health of sharks?
- Did the use of dispersants help mitigate the impact of the oil spill?
- Will we now be able to predict where ocean currents will carry the oil that results from future spills?

**Digital Only: #1014 – DISPATCHES FROM THE GULF 1: Science • Community • Recovery** — Investigates the environmental health of the Gulf of Mexico in the years after the Deepwater Horizon blowout in April 2010. That's when the world's ninth largest body of water became a place where thousands of communities and millions of citizens were put in jeopardy by a single incident – the largest offshore oil spill in U.S. history. Today, a global team of scientists is working together to protect and restore one of our planet's most valuable natural resources. Their ultimate goal is to learn how to cope with the challenges of future oil spills.

**#1013 – EXTREME REALITIES** — **NOTICE SOMETHING STRANGE? What's happening to our weather? WELCOME TO THE NEW NORMAL.** "Extreme Realities" investigates the link between extreme weather, climate change, and threats to our national security. Just pick up any newspaper or watch any television news report and it becomes evident that unprecedented extreme weather events such as severe drought and heat waves, more intense hurricanes, increased tornado and wildfire activity, and crippling blizzards are leaving a trail of death and destruction throughout the world. Case studies focus on environmental justice, sustainable energy, mitigating CO2 levels in the atmosphere, population/migration, and food/water security in the U.S., Afghanistan, Pakistan, Russia, the Middle East, Kenya, North Africa, Netherlands, and Benin.

\*\*\* Some episodes are only available in digital format.

**#1012 – PLAN B: MOBILIZING TO SAVE CIVILIZATION** — Provides a glimpse into a new and emerging economy based upon renewable resources as well as strategies to avoid the growing threat of climate change. As prices rise, oil insecurity deepens, and concerns about carbon emissions cast a shadow over the future of fossil fuels, wind, solar, and geothermal energy are replacing oil, coal, and natural gas at a pace and on a scale previously unimagined.

**Digital Only: #1011 – STATE OF THE PLANET'S OCEANS** — Investigates the health and sustainability of the world's oceans. Case studies have a special emphasis on climate change and issues affecting marine—reserves, fisheries, and coastal ecosystems.

**#1010 – STATE OF THE OCEAN'S ANIMALS** — Takes a hard look at why nearly half the world's marine animals may face extinction over the next twenty–five years. Case studies focus on global issues including climate change, sea–level rise, over–fishing, and habitat destruction.

**#1009 – STATE OF THE PLANET'S WILDLIFE** — Explores what scientists are calling the “sixth great extinction” of our world's plants and animals and what we are doing to stop it. Case studies evaluate the loss of wildlife as a result of climate change, population and poverty pressures, poaching, the international bush–meat trade, and the loss of wildlife corridors in Montana, Florida's Everglades, South Africa, Singapore, Bangladesh, Kenya, Zambia, the Amazon, the Arctic, and China.

**#1008 – STATE OF THE PLANET** — Asks the most critical questions of the 21st Century. Case studies look at how population, climate change, and economic pressures affect the world's resources such as food and water in Kenya, India, Israel, Bangladesh, the Amazon, Mexico, China, and the United States.

- *Are populations soaring out of control?*
- *Are we running out of water?*
- *Will there be enough water and food for future generations?*
- *Climate Change — a false alarm or a gathering storm?*

**#1007 – FUTURE CONDITIONAL** — Probes the link between environmental change and the future health of our planet, a “future conditional” on how we cope with the spread of toxic pollution. Case studies cover how changing climates, uncontrolled and unsustainable development, and air and water pollution in one area can affect people thousands of miles away.

**#1006 – HOT ZONES** — Examines how recent trends in globalization and the altering of ecosystems have led to dramatic increases in the spread of infectious diseases. Case studies demonstrate just how closely our own health is dependent on that of the environment.

**#1005 – SEAS OF GRASS** — Shows the devastating environmental, political, and economic effects of the degradation of the world's grasslands, which make up 30 percent of Earth's land surface. Case studies illustrate the complex relationship between burning, livestock grazing, reduction in species diversity and the conversion of grassland to farmland or desert and poverty, disease, and loss of habitat.

**#1004 – ON THE BRINK** — Considers a growing national security threat throughout the world: how environmental pressures can lead to terrorism, regional conflict, political crises, and increased hostilities. Case studies delve into the connections between national security and deforestation, soil erosion, water depletion, air pollution, surging refugee populations, and global climate change.

**#1003 – LAND OF PLENTY, LAND OF WANT** — Weighs how farmers can feed Earth's growing population without impoverishing the land and endangering our environment. Case studies show drought, loss of topsoil, water pollution, misuse of chemicals and pesticides, and loss of farmland to urbanization.

**#1002 – THE URBAN EXPLOSION** — Visits four mega–cities to scrutinize a major challenge of the 21st Century: how to shelter and sustain the world's exploding urban population without destroying the delicate balance of our environment. Case studies review air pollution, water pollution, population pressures, waste disposal, and the need for urban planning.

**#1001 – RIVERS OF DESTINY** — Journeys to four major river systems to investigate environmental pressures facing those whose lives depend upon the health of their river. Case studies examine the resulting problems from tampering with wildlife habitat, floods, water rights, destruction of the Amazon rain forest, over fishing, and the impact of economic development on water resources.

**To learn more about "Journey To Planet Earth" and obtain DVDs or Digital Streaming contact:**

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