



Microbes appeared on the Earth billions of years before plants and animals and they are found in every nook and cranny of the Earth. Every aspect of our lives, the food we eat, the water we drink, and the air we breathe, has been touched by the microbial world in which we live. While some microbes are pathogenic, the vast majority are beneficial and these good microbes regulate our biosphere and have profound effects on plants and animals.

Every organism and every environment contains a distinctive set of microorganisms which together comprise its microbiome. While microbiomes are tremendously complex a revolution in DNA sequencing and genomic technologies over the past ten years has launched microbiome science into the twenty first century.

Come and meet the scientists doing Microbiome Science @ Cornell University. See the results of a microbial census we performed at a recent BioBlitz in Ithaca, NY, where we found more than 10 unique microbes for every species of plant and animal. You can also peer through the microscope at the tiny titans that live large in the microbial world, extract a sample of DNA in our lab, and learn about the tremendous diversity of microbial life that surrounds but is just out of sight.

