



MARINE BIOLOGY

Coral Reefs Colouring Activity

Coral reefs are the rainforests of the ocean grow over time with coral build up.

Corals are living creatures even though they look like colourful plants.

Over hundreds and thousands of years, colonies of corals combine to form large reefs that can stretch over many kilometres. The largest is our very own **Great Barrier reef** which started growing over 20,000 years ago.

Coral reefs are highly diverse even though they only cover less than 1% of the ocean floor. Coral reefs are the habitat of over 25% of all marine creatures. It is estimated that up to 2million species live in coral reefs. The habitat helps protect young marine creatures as they grow.

Climate change and pollution are huge problems that coral reefs face. The change in temperature causes coral bleaching.

IDENTIFYING THREATS TO THE CORAL REEF

Materials:

- Colouring sheets (pages 2-3)
- Images to cut out (page 4)
- Colouring pencils, pens
- Glue stick
- Scissors

Instructions:

In each image, identify a **threat** to the coral reef and colour it in using **grey**.

Then colour in the rest of the image as desired. You can cut out the fish and other sea creatures to decorate your images or draw your own colourful Coral Reef.





