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Aii Language Center
A Mengly J. Quach Education School

Name: _____ **Quiz** Points: _____

Reading Explorer 2, Third Edition
Video Worksheets



Unit 6: Ocean Megabuilders

Fill in the blanks with the correct words.

The bright colors of coral reefs can be seen in warm seas all around the planet. But they are not just beautiful, they are also hugely [1]_____ to our oceans.

One: Corals are actually animals. Though they may look like colorful plants, coral are in fact made up of tiny animals called polyps. Polyps can range from the size of a [2]_____ to a bit larger than a basketball.

Two: Corals are megabuilders. Each polyp builds itself a skeleton out of limestone. These skeletons join together to form large [3]_____ of hard corals. As polyp colonies grow over hundreds and thousands of years, they join with other colonies and become reefs that can [4]_____ over hundreds of kilometers. The largest coral reef is Australia's Great Barrier Reef. It began growing about 20,000 years ago.

Three: Coral reefs are some of the most [5]_____ on Earth. Though they cover less than one percent of the ocean floor, coral reefs are home to 25 percent of all sea creatures. Up to two million species live in coral reefs around the world.

Four: Coral provide a [6]_____ to the past. As coral grow over thousands or millions of years, their limestone skeletons form layers. These are similar to tree rings. They vary in thickness based on ocean conditions at the time. Scientists can study these layers to learn what the Earth's climate may have been like in the distant past. But what about the future? Unfortunately, climate change is [7]_____ for Earth's coral reefs, the animals that live there, and the 500 million people around the world who depend on reef fish for food. Unless we can slow down [8]_____ , scientists warn that our oceans could lose many of their colorful reefs by the end of the 21st century.

Thanks!

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