Grade 8 Unit 9 Lesson 11 Worksheet

We need coral reefs ... and they need us!

They cover less than 1% of the world's ocean floor, but they support about 25% of all **marine life**. Coral reefs are some of the most **varied** ecosystems on Earth with thousands of animal species living in and around them. They also help people who live near them because millions of jobs are created through tourism, for example hotels, restaurants, fishing and diving tours.

Unfortunately, coral reefs are in big danger. Scientists say that by 2050 we'll probably lose most of the remaining reefs. So, if you're planning on going to a coral reef destination, make sure that you do your best to help protect the corals. Here's how:



(1) _____

When you're preparing your holiday, choose an **environmentally-friendly** hotel. Do some research to find out where they throw **rubbish** and **sewage**. Make sure it isn't in the sea!

(2) _____

If you're going scuba-diving or snorkeling near a coral reef, ask the captain where you are going to stop. If the boat stops on or near a reef, it'll cause big **damage**.

(3) _____

While you're diving or snorkeling, you must never stand on corals or even touch them. They are very sensitive animals and touching them can be very **harmful** to them (and you!). If you're not an experienced swimmer, make sure there's someone more experienced with you. Keeping coral reefs safe is your **responsibility** too!

3 According to the article, are the statements below true (T) or false (F)?

1 Coral reefs are small in size but have a very big value. ____
2 There's no need to worry about protecting coral reefs. ____
3 Choosing the wrong accommodation can be bad for coral reefs. ____
4 Some tour boats stop too close to coral reefs. ____
5 Unless you can swim very well, you can't see a coral reef. ____

LIVEWORKSHEETS