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**The Importance of Coral Reefs**

Coral reefs are often called the “rainforests of the sea” because of their incredible biodiversity. Found in warm, shallow waters, they provide habitat for thousands of marine species.

Reefs are not only important for marine life but also for humans. They protect coastlines from erosion by acting as natural barriers against waves and storms. Additionally, reefs support fishing industries and tourism, contributing to the global economy.

However, coral reefs are under threat from human activity. Pollution, overfishing, and climate change cause coral bleaching, a process that weakens or kills coral. This endangers the ecosystems that depend on them.

Efforts to protect reefs include establishing marine protected areas, reducing carbon emissions, and promoting sustainable fishing practices. By safeguarding reefs, we ensure the survival of countless species and maintain balance in our oceans.

In conclusion, coral reefs are vital to both nature and people. Preserving them is essential for the health of our planet.