Name _____

How Elephants Live

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. The matriarch of a herd is _____.
   - Ⓐ forgetful
   - Ⓑ young
   - Ⓒ wise

2. Because of the elephant's great size, it can _____.
   - Ⓐ frighten its enemy
   - Ⓑ move quickly
   - Ⓒ learn from life

3. What is the importance of the herd's matriarch?

_____

_____

4. How does an elephant's memory help it to live a long life?

_____

_____

5. What do you think was the most interesting part of this text?

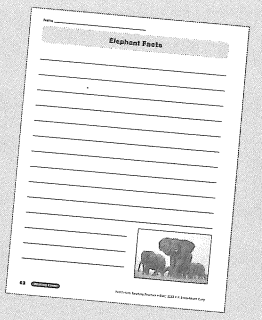
_____

_____

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

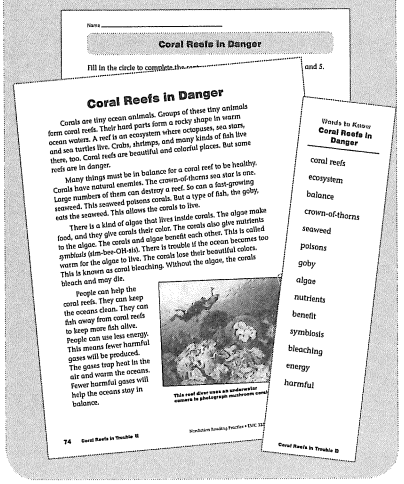
Compare an elephant herd with a human family. Write about some of the things they have in common.



Coral Reefs in Trouble

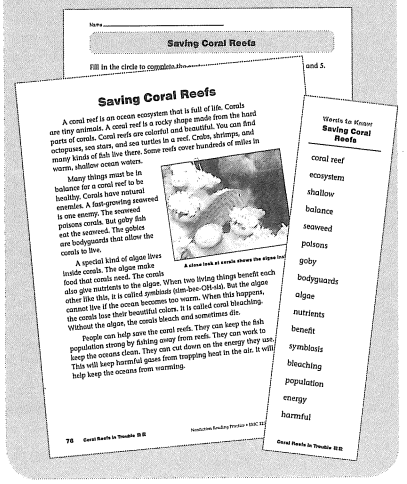
Level 1 ■

Words to Know list, Reading Selection, and Reading Comprehension questions



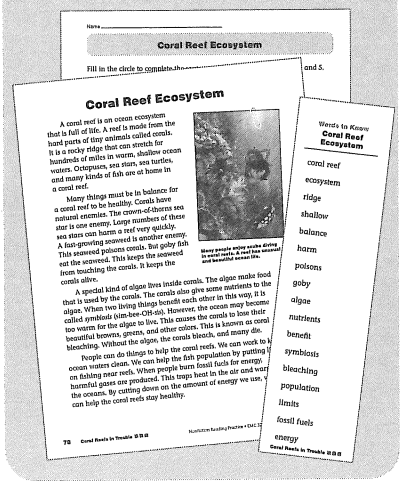
Level 2 ■■

Words to Know list, Reading Selection, and Reading Comprehension questions



Level 3 ■■■

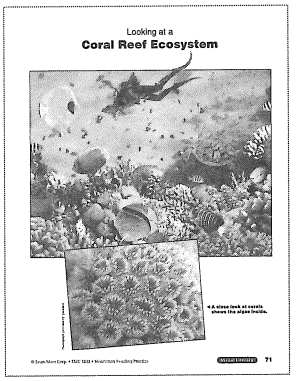
Words to Know list, Reading Selection, and Reading Comprehension questions



Assemble the Unit

Reproduce and distribute one copy for each student:

- Visual Literacy page: Looking at a Coral Reef Ecosystem, page 71
- Level 1, 2, or 3 Reading Selection and Reading Comprehension page and the corresponding Words to Know list
- Graphic Organizer of your choosing, provided on pages 180–186
- Writing Form: A Coral Reef Dive, page 72



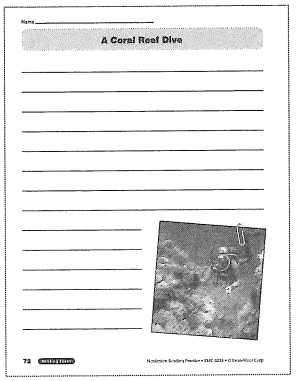
Visual Literacy

Introduce the Topic

Review the photos with students. Explain that corals are not rocks or plants, but tiny ocean animals that live together in colonies. Reefs form from the hard skeletons of these animals. Corals come in many different shapes and colors.

Read and Respond

Form leveled groups and review the Words to Know lists with each group of students. Instruct each group to read their selection individually, in pairs, or as a group. Have students complete the Reading Comprehension page for their selection.



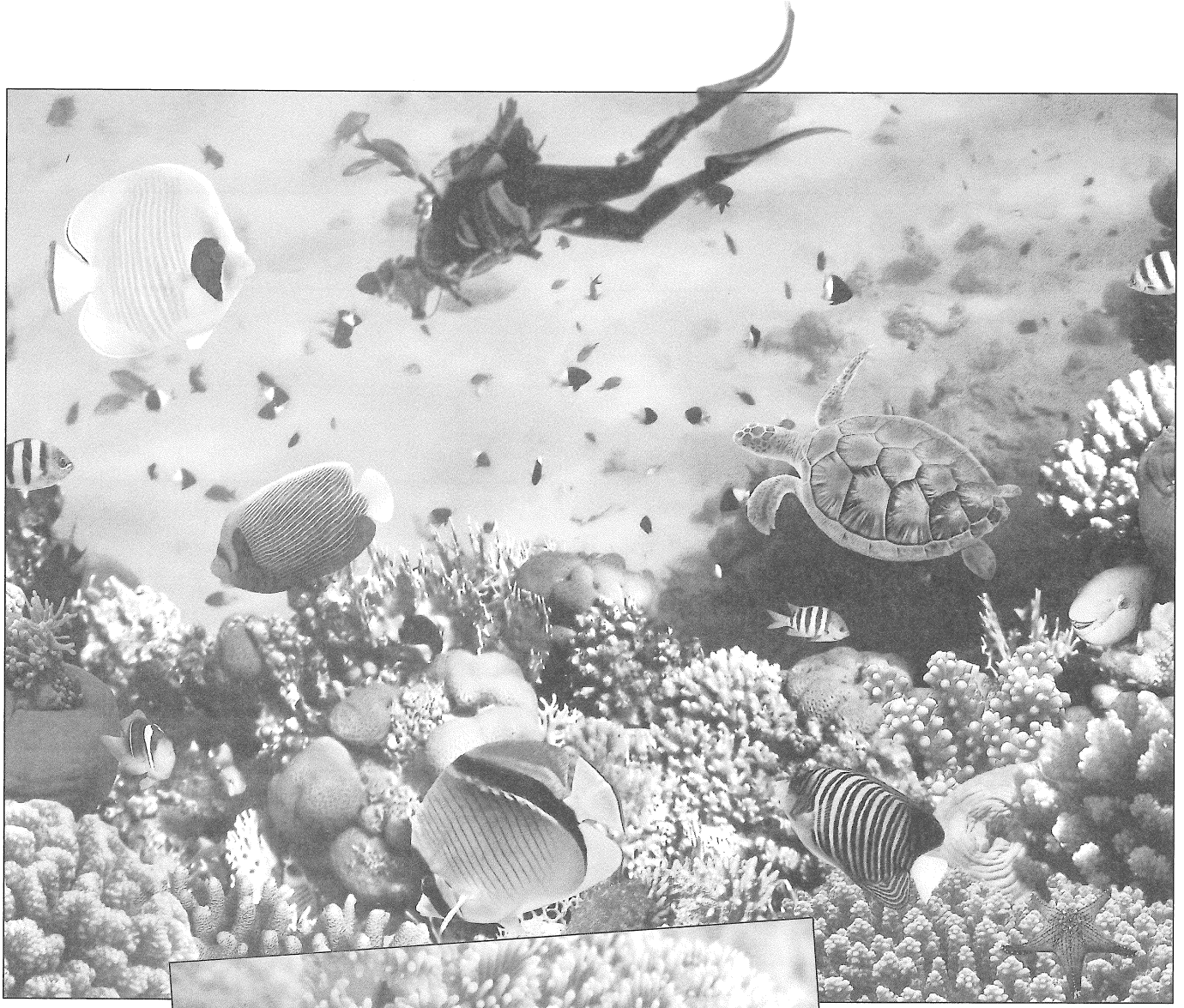
Writing Form

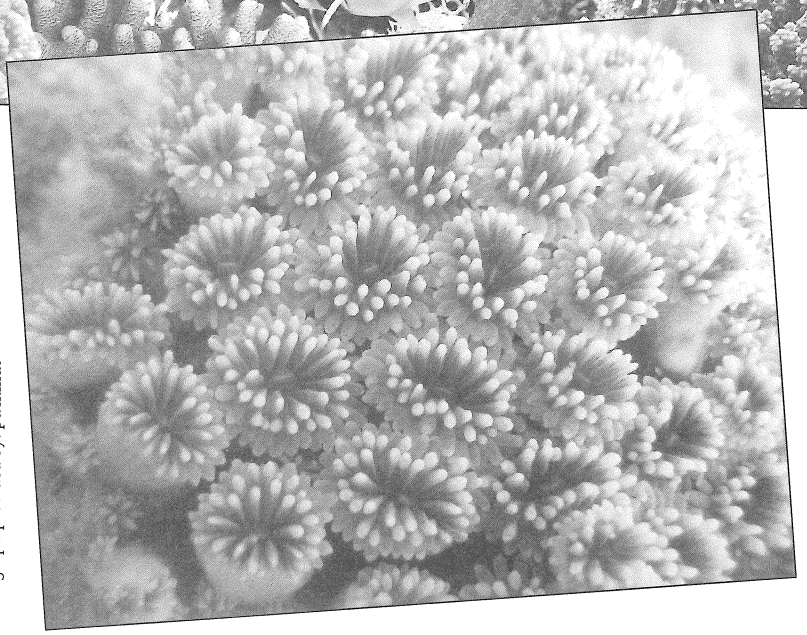
Write About the Topic

Read aloud the leveled writing prompt for each group. Tell students to use the Graphic Organizer to plan their writing. Direct students to use their Writing Form to respond to their prompt.

Looking at a

Coral Reef Ecosystem





Photograph provided by: packmat

◀ **A close look at corals shows the algae inside.**

Name _____

A Coral Reef Dive

Words to Know

Coral Reefs in Danger

coral reefs
ecosystem
balance
crown-of-thorns
seaweed
poisons
goby
algae
nutrients
benefit
symbiosis
bleaching
energy
harmful

Coral Reefs in Trouble ■

Words to Know

Saving Coral Reefs

coral reef
ecosystem
shallow
balance
seaweed
poisons
goby
bodyguards
algae
nutrients
benefit
symbiosis
bleaching
population
energy
harmful

Coral Reefs in Trouble ■■

Words to Know

Coral Reef Ecosystem

coral reef
ecosystem
ridge
shallow
balance
harm
poisons
goby
algae
nutrients
benefit
symbiosis
bleaching
population
limits
fossil fuels
energy

Coral Reefs in Trouble ■■■

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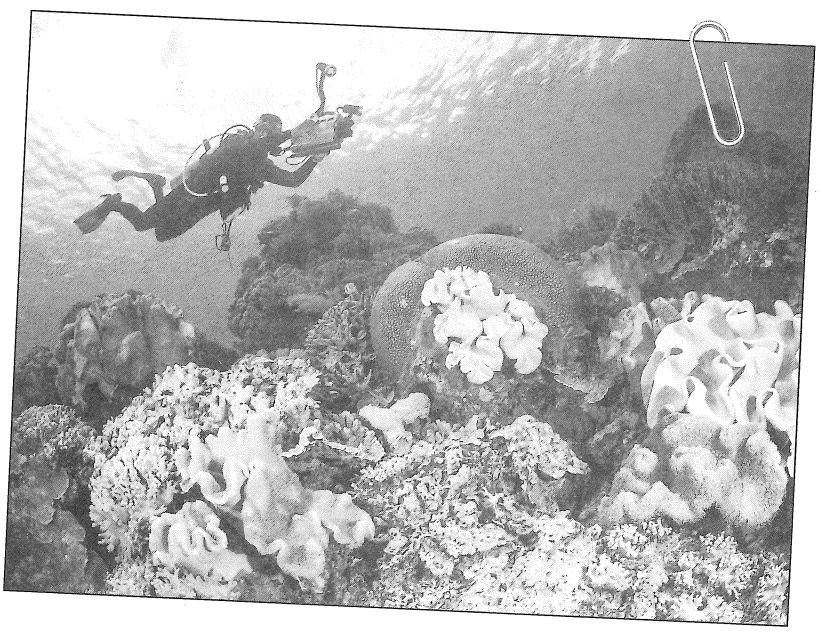
Coral Reefs in Danger

Corals are tiny ocean animals. Groups of these tiny animals form coral reefs. Their hard parts form a rocky shape in warm ocean waters. A reef is an ecosystem where octopuses, sea stars, and sea turtles live. Crabs, shrimps, and many kinds of fish live there, too. Coral reefs are beautiful and colorful places. But some reefs are in danger.

Many things must be in balance for a coral reef to be healthy. Corals have natural enemies. The crown-of-thorns sea star is one. Large numbers of them can destroy a reef. So can a fast-growing seaweed. This seaweed poisons corals. But a type of fish, the goby, eats the seaweed. This allows the corals to live.

There is a kind of algae that lives inside corals. The algae make food, and they give corals their color. The corals also give nutrients to the algae. The corals and algae benefit each other. This is called *symbiosis* (sim-bee-OH-sis). There is trouble if the ocean becomes too warm for the algae to live. The corals lose their beautiful colors. This is known as coral bleaching. Without the algae, the corals bleach and may die.

People can help the coral reefs. They can keep the oceans clean. They can fish away from coral reefs to keep more fish alive. People can use less energy. This means fewer harmful gases will be produced. The gases trap heat in the air and warm the oceans. Fewer harmful gases will help the oceans stay in balance.



This reef diver uses an underwater camera to photograph mushroom corals.

Name _____

Coral Reefs in Danger

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. One danger to a coral reef is _____.
   - Ⓐ cleaner ocean water
   - Ⓑ the goby
   - Ⓒ ocean water that is too warm

2. Some living things benefit each other in _____.
   - Ⓐ an ecosystem
   - Ⓑ trouble
   - Ⓒ coral bleaching

3. Explain why algae and corals are an example of symbiosis.

_____

_____

4. If you were an ocean scientist, what is one way you could learn if a coral reef was healthy?

_____

_____

5. If you could interview an ocean scientist, what question would you ask about coral reefs?

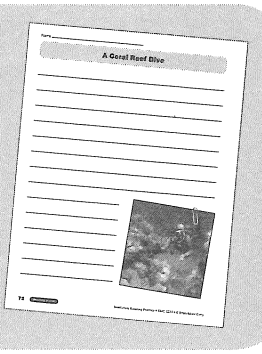
_____

_____

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

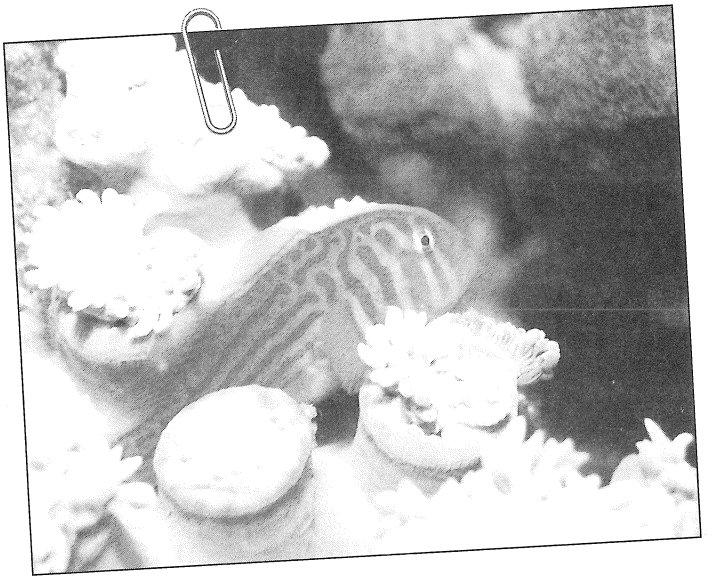
Imagine you are a diver in a coral reef. Write about the things you saw on your dive today.



Saving Coral Reefs

A coral reef is an ocean ecosystem that is full of life. Corals are tiny animals. A coral reef is a rocky shape made from the hard parts of corals. Coral reefs are colorful and beautiful. You can find octopuses, sea stars, and sea turtles in a reef. Crabs, shrimps, and many kinds of fish live there. Some reefs cover hundreds of miles in warm, shallow ocean waters.

Many things must be in balance for a coral reef to be healthy. Corals have natural enemies. A fast-growing seaweed is one enemy. The seaweed poisons corals. But goby fish eat the seaweed. The gobies are bodyguards that allow the corals to live.



A close look at corals shows the algae inside.

A special kind of algae lives inside corals. The algae make food that corals need. The corals also give nutrients to the algae. When two living things benefit each other like this, it is called *symbiosis* (sim-bee-OH-sis). But the algae cannot live if the ocean becomes too warm. When this happens, the corals lose their beautiful colors. It is called coral bleaching. Without the algae, the corals bleach and sometimes die.

People can help save the coral reefs. They can keep the fish population strong by fishing away from reefs. They can work to keep the oceans clean. They can cut down on the energy they use. This will keep harmful gases from trapping heat in the air. It will help keep the oceans from warming.

Name _____

Saving Coral Reefs

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. A natural enemy of corals is _____.
   - Ⓐ the goby
   - Ⓑ a kind of seaweed
   - Ⓒ a special kind of algae

2. Coral bleaching can happen when _____.
   - Ⓐ there are not enough algae
   - Ⓑ corals take in algae
   - Ⓒ gobies eat corals

3. What facts from the text show symbiosis between two living things?

_____

_____

4. Some gobies keep their enemies away by giving off poison. Based on what you know about gobies, how would you explain this?

_____

_____

5. What is the main idea of paragraph 4?

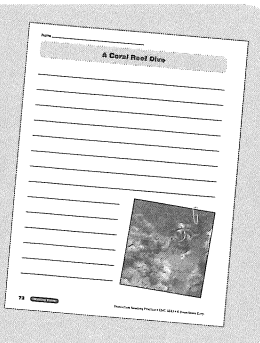
_____

_____

Write About the Topic

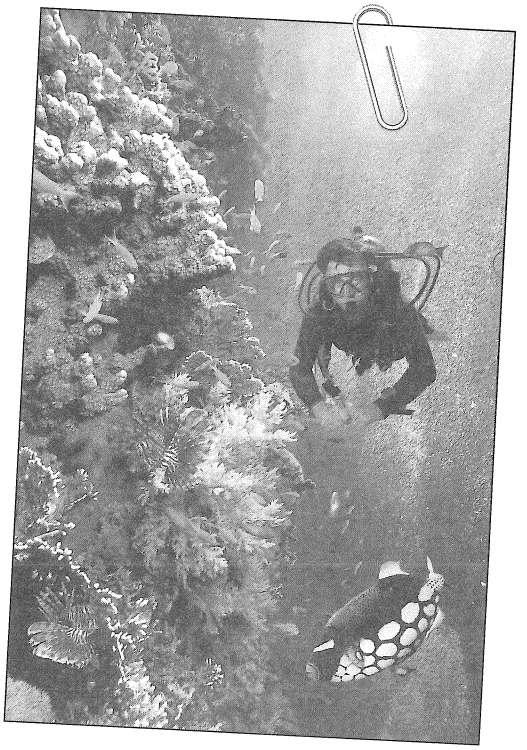
Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Imagine you are a diver in a coral reef. Describe the many living things you see there. Tell why you dive.



Coral Reef Ecosystem

A coral reef is an ocean ecosystem that is full of life. A reef is made from the hard parts of tiny animals called corals. It is a rocky ridge that can stretch for hundreds of miles in warm, shallow ocean waters. Octopuses, sea stars, sea turtles, and many kinds of fish are at home in a coral reef.



Many people enjoy scuba diving in coral reefs. A reef has unusual and beautiful ocean life.

Many things must be in balance for a coral reef to be healthy. Corals have natural enemies. The crown-of-thorns sea star is one enemy. Large numbers of these sea stars can harm a reef very quickly. A fast-growing seaweed is another enemy. This seaweed poisons corals. But goby fish eat the seaweed. This keeps the seaweed from touching the corals. It keeps the corals alive.

A special kind of algae lives inside corals. The algae make food that is used by the corals. The corals also give some nutrients to the algae. When two living things benefit each other in this way, it is called *symbiosis* (sim-bee-OH-sis). However, the ocean may become too warm for the algae to live. This causes the corals to lose their beautiful browns, greens, and other colors. This is known as coral bleaching. Without the algae, the corals bleach, and many die.

People can do things to help the coral reefs. We can work to keep ocean waters clean. We can help the fish population by putting limits on fishing near reefs. When people burn fossil fuels for energy, harmful gases are produced. This traps heat in the air and warms the oceans. By cutting down on the amount of energy we use, we can help the coral reefs stay healthy.