

LESSON NOTES

Subject: Basic Science

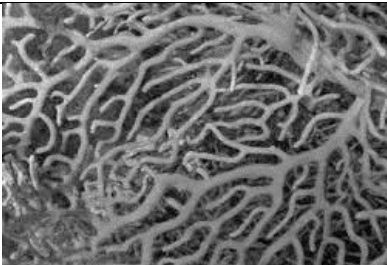

Week 11

Year/Level: 9

Strand	1 : LIVING THINGS AND THE ENVIRONMENT
Sub Strand	1.2 : LIVNG TOGETHER
Content Learning Outcome	Discover and discuss the features of the environment in terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems and account for organisms adaptability to such environment for survival.

Soft Coral

- ✓ lacks calcium carbonate skeletons so they do not contribute to the growth of a reef.

TYPE	DIAGRAM	FEATURES
Horny Corals		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Named not because of their sex drive but because their skeleton is made of a horny substance called gorgonin. ✓ Often very colourful : orange and red.
Stinging Corals		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Consist of a series of flattened branches ✓ Usually yellow-brown or orange ✓ If you get stung by one of these, the best treatment is to cover infected area with vinegar or any diluted acid

Features of the Environment

- ✓ **Environment**: everything that is external to the organism.
- ✓ Both nonliving and living factors interact to make up the total environment of organisms.
- ✓ Abiotic features of the environment vary greatly from place to place.
- ✓ The greatest diversity exists between the abiotic features of an aquatic (water) environment and a terrestrial (land) environment.
- ✓ The distribution, diversity and numbers of plants and animals found in ecosystems are determined by the biotic and abiotic factors.

Abiotic Factors

- non-living features of the environment.
- rarely threaten the survival of a species but will greatly affect their populations.
- affect the type of ecosystem and therefore the distribution and abundance of organisms within that ecosystem.
- **Physical factors**
 - ❖ Temperature
 - ❖ Light
 - ❖ Landform
 - ❖ Tides
 - ❖ shelter
- **Chemical factors**
 - ❖ amount of water
 - ❖ salinity
 - ❖ soil nutrients

Biotic factors

- living organisms that occur in the environment.
- distribution and abundance of organisms in an ecosystem is greatly affected by the organisms that live in the ecosystem.
- An organism may be affected by:
 - ❖ **Activities of members of the same species:**
 - competing for resources
 - mate for reproduction.
 - ❖ **Activities of members of different species.**
 - source of food
 - predator or a parasite
 - disease causing organism

ACTIVITY:

1. State the reason why soft corals does not contribute to growth of a reef.

2. Define the following and give an example:

a) Abiotic factor.

b) Biotic factor.

...STAY SAFE... 