

LESSON NOTES

Subject: Basic Science

Year/Level: 9

Week 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.

CORAL

- are colonial animals which mean that each “head” is made of thousands of individual interconnected polyps.
- They survive where temperature is between 20°C – 30°C.
- There are several kinds of corals but only those with zooxanthellae build reefs.
- **Zooxanthellae:**
 - ✓ a type of algae that live in corals.
 - ✓ as the coral colony grows, new individuals build on top of old skeletons (has evident massive structure with only a little living tissue is present on the top)
 - ✓ as a result of this structure, corals are so easily damaged if they are:
 - touched by divers
 - anchors
 - other rough things
- grow in shapes that reduce the impact of water movement.

CORAL REEFS

- unique
- geological structures are built by living communities.
- formed by the combined effort of billions of tiny marine organisms ranging from algae, protozoa through to coral animals.
- **Types of Coral Reefs**
 1. Fringing Reef - border the shores, surrounding the islands.(Commonly found in Fiji).
 2. Lagoon - enclosed flat-topped reefs
 3. Barrier Reef - Found at some distance off-shore
 4. Platform Reef - accumulated small patches found inshore of the barrier reef.

• **IMPORTANCE OF CORAL REEFS**

- ✓ Homes/Habitats to a variety of marine organisms eg. fish, worms, clams, starfish, crustaceans
- ✓ Protect island shorelines from strong waves
- ✓ Important part of the ocean food web
- ✓ Income Earner (Families/Country – revenue)
- ✓ Source of employment
- ✓ Tourist Attraction
- ✓ Contributes to the formation of islands
- ✓ Has an Impact on Climate Change
- ✓ Contributes to the rate of climate changing taking place today

ACTIVITY:

1. Name the algae that lives in corals.

2. How are coral reefs formed?

3. Name and define the four types of coral reefs.

i. _____

ii. _____

iii. _____

iv. _____

...STAY SAFE... 