

Conserving Corals

Pre-Visit Lesson Plan



SEA LIFE
EDUCATION

The ocean matters to all of us!

Whether you're landlocked or living the island life, the ocean has an impact on your life.

What are some ways the ocean impacts your day-to-day life?

Plan a beach vacation!

Where will you go?

What activities will you do?

What will you eat?

What will it cost?



Fill in the table below to plan a budget for a seven-day beach vacation.

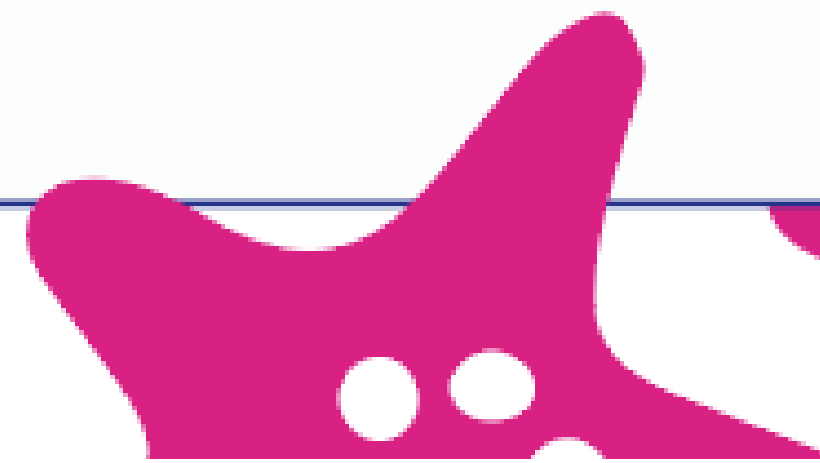
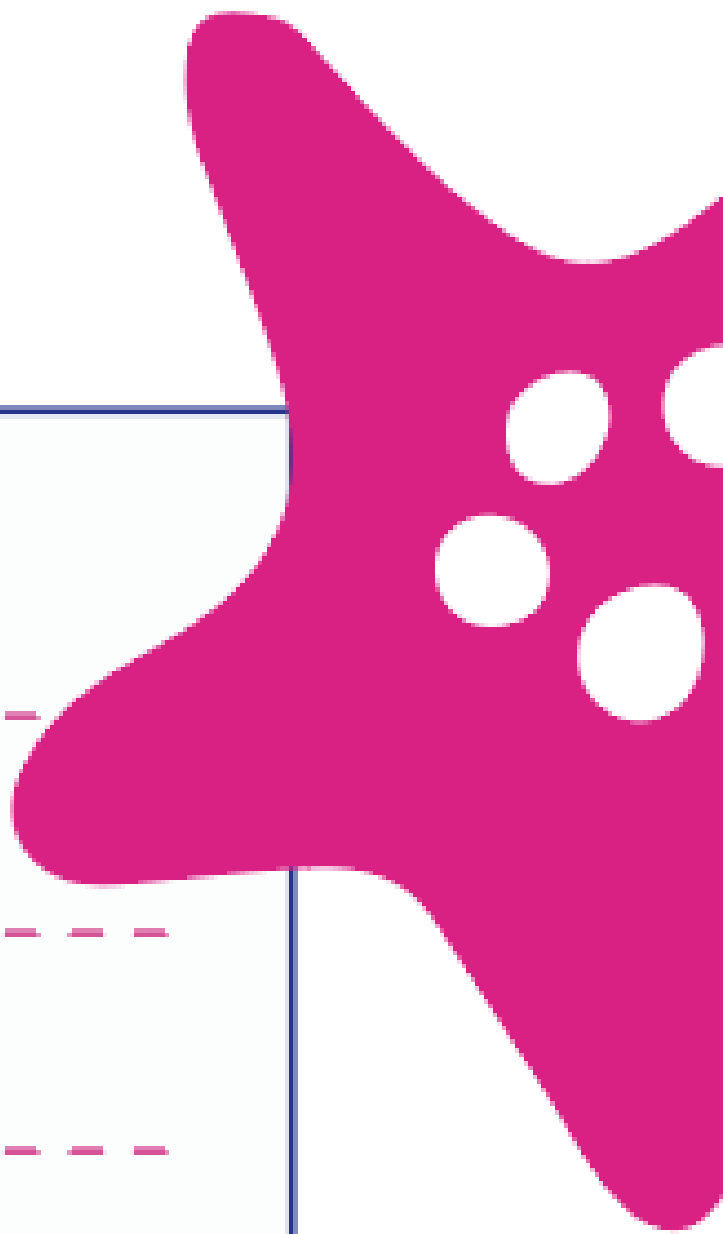
Travel & Lodging	Activities	Dining
<div>Cost:</div>	<div>Cost:</div>	<div>Cost:</div>

Total cost estimate:

Coastal communities rely on the ocean!

How would the community you plan to visit be impacted if ocean health declined?

Consider
impact to
tourists
and
residents!



Food Webs on the Reef

Coral reefs are known as the 'rainforests of the ocean' because they're home to such great species diversity.

Let's explore this diversity, and the flow of energy through species on the reef!



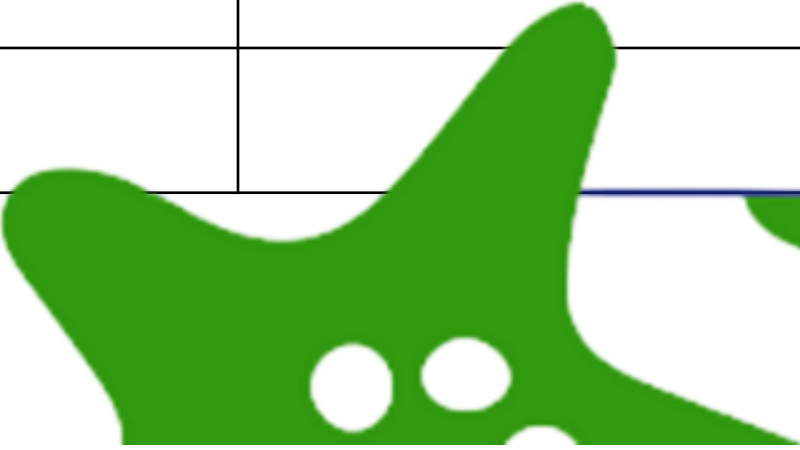
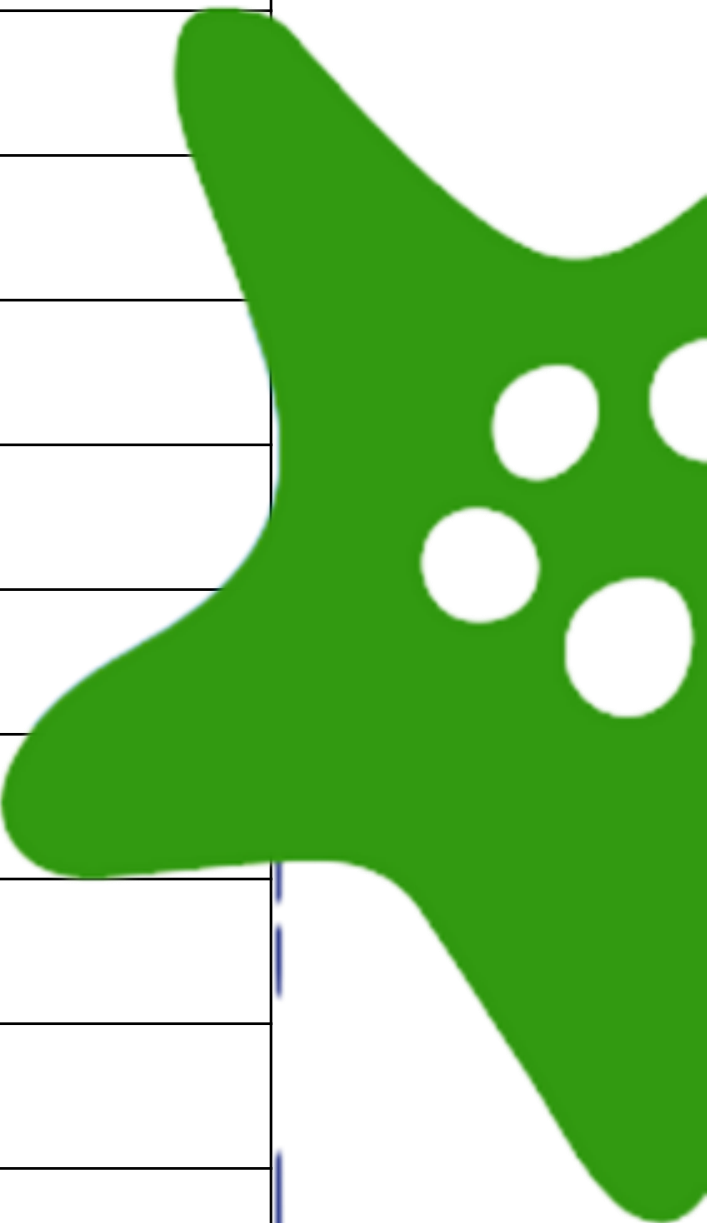
Food Webs on the Reef

- Choose your coral reef
There are many reefs around our world's oceans!
Will you choose the Florida Reef Tract, Australia's Great Barrier Reef, or another amazing reef?
- Research the animals who live there and complete the table to identify each animal's diet and trophic level
Reminder: trophic levels can include primary producers, primary / secondary / tertiary consumers, and detritivores
- Diagram the flow of energy through the reef, from the sun through the top predators!



Chosen reef:

Animal	Diet	Trophic Level



Reef Food Web

Let's Discuss!

Did anything surprise you in your research or creation of your food web?

What would happen if one of your primary consumers was removed from the ecosystem? What about one of your top (secondary / tertiary) consumers?



Extension

Choose a second reef in another part of the world, and repeat the process to build a second food web!

Compare your food webs. What's similar? What's different? What factors (geology, water temperature, etc.) might explain these similarities & differences?

