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# Coral Reefs An Ecosystem In Transition

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*Corals and  
Coral Reefs |*

*Smithsonian  
Ocean Coral  
Reefs An  
Ecosystem*

In Coral reefs are some of the most diverse ecosystems in the world. Coral polyps, the animals primarily responsible for building reefs, can take many forms: large reef building colonies, graceful flowing fans, and even small, solitary organisms. Thousands of species of corals have been discovered; some live in warm, shallow, tropical seas and others in the cold, dark depths of the

ocean. Coral reef ecosystems | National Oceanic and Atmospheric ...Coral reefs are one of the most biologically diverse ecosystems on earth, rivaled only by tropical rain forests. They are made up not only of hard and soft corals, but also sponges, crustaceans, mollusks, fish, sea turtles, sharks, dolphins and much more. Coral Reef Ecosystems - Reef ReliefThe coral reef

ecosystem is a diverse collection of species that interact with each other and the physical environment. The sun is the initial source of energy for this ecosystem. Through photosynthesis, phytoplankton, algae, and other plants convert light energy into chemical energy. All About Coral & Coral Reefs - Reef Ecosystem | SeaWorld ...Coral reefs are the most diverse of all

marine ecosystems. They teem with life, with perhaps one-quarter of all ocean species depending on reefs for food and shelter. This is a remarkable statistic when you consider that reefs cover just a tiny fraction (less than one percent) of the earth's surface and less than two percent of the ocean bottom. Corals and Coral Reefs | Smithsonian Ocean Coral reefs ecosystem is one of the

world's most biologically diverse ecosystems, compared only by the tropical rain forest. This ecosystem is made of the combination of soft and hard corals, crustaceans, mollusks, sea turtles, fish, snakes, and many more range of species. Coral Reefs Ecosystem - Marine Biology Coral reefs aren't just immense structures built from countless corals accumulating over a surface

of the marine bottom, they are actual ecosystems per se. First of all, the corals themselves live in symbiosis with algae, which is how they get their vivid and stunning colors. How Does a Coral Reef Ecosystem Work? | Pouted Invertebrates are some of the organisms that make their habitat in the coral reefs. Invertebrates play a significant role in coral reef ecosystems with some

such as sea urchins and sea slugs feeding on algae and seaweed preventing them from smothering the coral reefs. Some invertebrates such as bivalve live within the skeleton of the coral reef. Plants and Animals Found in Coral Reef Ecosystems ...Coral reef ecosystems support a variety of human needs. They are important for subsistence, fisheries, tourism,

shoreline protection, and yield compounds that are important in the development of new medicines. At least 500 million people rely on coral reefs for food, coastal protection, and livelihoods. Value of Reefs | Reef ResilienceA coral reef is an underwater ecosystem characterized by reef-building corals. Reefs are formed of colonies of coral polyps held together

by calcium carbonate. Most coral reefs are built from stony corals, whose polyps cluster in groups. Coral reef - WikipediaCoral die-offs—caused by a process known as bleaching—tend to look as bland and lifeless, in contrast to the vibrant rainbow colors of thriving coral. Bleached coral reefs usually appear as an endless stretch of white coral and eventually turn to dead

brown coral. But in New Caledonia Vevers found something different. Dying Coral Reefs Impact Environment and Economy Coral reefs are often called the rainforests of the sea, both due to the vast amount of species they harbor, and to the high productivity they yield. Aside from the hundreds of species of coral, reefs support extraordinary biodiversity and are home to a multitude of different types of fish, invertebrates and sea mammals. Benefits of Coral Reefs - IYOR 2018 Coral reefs are very special ecosystems that are millions of years old. Found off the coasts in warm, tropical waters, coral reefs are full of a huge variety of plants and animals that have to... Coral Reef Ecosystem Lesson for Kids | Study.com Coral reef ecosystems support important commercial, recreational, and subsistence fishery resources in the U.S and its territories. Fishing also plays a central social and cultural role in many island and coastal communities, where it is often a critical source of food and income. How does overfishing threaten coral reefs? Coral Reef Biodiversity Biodiversity is the variety of living species that can be found in a

particular place—region, ecosystem, planet, etc. Coral reefs are believed by many to have the highest biodiversity of any ecosystem on the planet—even more than a tropical rainforest. Coral Reef Biodiversity | Coral Reef Alliance Coral reefs often host juvenile fish that live further offshore. They are the basis for the formation of other ecosystems. Why are coral reefs so

important? - Coral Guardian Coral reefs are an important part of the ocean's ecosystem. There are many causes of the coral reef destruction whether they come naturally such as wave and storm or from human activities like overfishing, dynamite fishing, etc. Moreover, the effects from the destructive may impact on coral reefs directly or through a longer period. 20

Effects of Coral Reefs Destruction - DeepOceanFacts.com Food Webs in a coral reef ecosystem A food web is a system of interlocking and interdependent food chains. In each food web there are several trophic levels. The trophic level of an organism is the position it occupies in the food chain. Food Web - The Coral Reef Climate change dramatically affects coral reef

ecosystems  
 Contributing factors that increase greenhouse gases in the atmosphere include burning fossil fuels for heat and energy, producing some industrial products, raising livestock, fertilizing crops, and deforestation. Climate change leads to:  
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### **Benefits of Coral Reefs - IYOR 2018**

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Coral Reefs An Ecosystem In *All About Coral & Coral Reefs - Reef*

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### *Value of Reefs | Reef*

### *Resilience*

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