

Geography Year 4

The Great Barrier Reef



Key Facts



- That there are seven continents and five oceans.
- That Australia is an island of continental size. It is the smallest of the seven continents.
- Australia is world famous for its natural wonders and wide-open spaces, its beaches, deserts, 'the bush', and 'the Outback'.
- That the Tropic of Capricorn passes through Australia and that Australia is divided into different time zones.
- The GBR is off the east coast of Queensland in the Coral Sea. Queensland is in the north east of Australia.
- The Great Barrier Reef (GBR) is the largest reef in the world and over 2,300 kilometres long. It can be seen from space!
- The GBR is composed of and built by billions of tiny organisms, known as coral polyps.
- The GBR is a rich ocean habitat. It is home to over a thousand species of fish, coral, sharks, marine mammals and turtles; including many endangered species.
- There are a number of threats to the GBR but the most significant threat is climate change.
- Climate change can cause coral bleaching and ocean acidification.
- The GBR is popular tourist attraction but this tourism can also be a threat to the coral and creatures of the reef.

Geographical Skills



- Ask and answer geographical questions about the physical characteristics of a location.
- Use maps and atlases to locate places and describe features.
- Name and locate the world's continents and oceans.
- Name, locate and mark on maps the Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn and date time zones.
- Describe key aspects of physical geography

Key Vocabulary



- Great Barrier Reef
- Coral
- Australia
- Tourism
- Pollution
- Marine
- Environment
- Island
- Coast
- Acidification

CORAL BLEACHING

Have you ever wondered how a coral becomes bleached?

HEALTHY CORAL

1 Coral and algae depend on each other to survive.



STRESSED CORAL

2 If stressed, algae leaves the coral.



BLEACHED CORAL

3 Coral is left bleached and vulnerable.



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