CONSERVATION

This lesson is a part of the Conservation unit, which describes different actions that people can take to manage and conserve coral reefs. Below is a summary of what is included in the entire unit.

UNIT CONTENTS

A. Background Information
   • Introduction
   • Mitigating Threats
   • Stakeholder Involvement
   • Education & Outreach
   • Monitoring
   • Enforcement
   • Restoration

B. Lessons

Watch It! My Wish
   • A worksheet to accompany the My Wish: Protect Our Oceans video

Watch It! Corals and MPAs
   • A worksheet to accompany Our Living Oceans, Episode 5: Corals and MPAs video.

Lesson 1A: Explore a Hope Spot
   • An activity that explores an existing Hope Spot. Students learn about ecosystem disruptions and services, and the reasons that make this place special.

Lesson 1B: Nominate a Hope Spot
   • An activity where students nominate a new Hope Spot that needs protection. Students present their proposed Hope Spot to their classmates who act as the “Hope Spot Council,” deciding if it should be approved.

Lesson 1C: Advocate for MPA
   • Write a compelling letter that advocates for the creation of their proposed MPA to a stakeholder or group of stakeholders.

Lesson 1D: Manage an MPA
   • An activity that creates a management plan for the three most important actions that are crucial to conserve their proposed MPA.

Read It! Maori Conservation
   • A worksheet to accompany the Traditional Māori Conservation Methods Help Protect Reefs in the Cook Islands blog.
INSTRUCTIONS: Watch an episode from Our Living Oceans film series titled “Corals and Marine Protected Areas” (https://video.earthxtv.com/shows/our-living-oceans/season/1/episode/5). Answer the questions below. For some answers, it may be necessary to conduct additional research.

1. What are some ways that coral reefs are threatened? List five threats.

2. What are some ecosystem services that coral reefs provide? Provide three examples.

3. What is a Marine Protected Area (MPA) and what is their purpose?

4. What is the largest MPA in the world, where is it located, and how large is it?

5. What is the purpose of zones in an MPA? Provide one example.
6. Where is the Republic of Palau and how is this country protecting their coral reefs?

7. Do remote coral reefs have a better chance of survival than reefs that are near populated areas?

8. What is coral bleaching?

9. What can aid in corals recovering from bleaching?

10. Why is it important to have local stakeholders involved in conservation efforts even if being conducted by international organizations like the Khaled bin Sultan Living Oceans Foundation?

11. Is it important to share scientific research with policymakers?

12. How do MPAs help improve coral reef fisheries? Make sure to include “spillover effect” in your explanation.

13. What is the 30X30 initiative?
14. How can MPAs help local communities? Provide one example.

15. Do MPAs work immediately? Explain.

16. Are all MPAs managed the same way? Explain.

INSTRUCTIONS: Review the answers that you provided and answer each of the following questions.

17. Do you think it is important to create MPAs? Explain your position using factual evidence.

18. Even if you don’t live near a coral reef, you are likely still affecting this ecosystem. How can you aid in protecting coral reefs? Provide three solutions.