Coral Growth

This lesson is a part of the Coral Growth unit, which explains how corals grow, and the shapes that they form. Below is a summary of what is included in the entire unit.

UNIT CONTENTS

A. Background Information
- How do Corals Grow?
- Growth Rates

B. Lessons

Candy Coral
- A lab to simulate coral skeleton growth in different scenarios

Which is the Superior Coral?
- A debate over which coral growth form is the best

Read it! Investigating the Reef Slope
- A worksheet to accompany the Investigating the Reef Slope field blog
INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Read Investigating the Reef Slope, a blog from our Society Islands, French Polynesia mission (http://www.lof.org/investigating-the-reef-slope/).

2. While reading the blog, take notes and connect it to your prior learning. Note things that you agree or disagree with. There is a space, below, for this.

3. Next, document what you like and dislike about this blog in the space below. Be sure to pay attention to things like style and tone, along with the content and visual design. Be sure to explain what it is that you do or do not like about each element.

4. Answer the questions.

NOTES

LIKES

DISLIKES
1. If you could only visit one part of the reef slope that the author describes, which would it be? Why? Be sure to cite examples from the text to support your answer.

2. What is the central idea of this blog?

3. What conclusion about types of corals was made by the author? Cite specific textual evidence to support this.

4. Did the author fully support her claim? Explain why you think this.

5. Metamorphosed, resilience, and benthic are specific vocabulary for the topic of this blog. Define them below.
6. Write a sentence of your own creation that connects the three words from #5, above.

7. Is this blog a reliable source for scientific information? Why or why not?

8. Do you notice any bias in this writing? If so, what?

9. Describe three things that you learned while reading this blog entry (they do not have to relate to the central idea).

10. Construct a comment to post in response to this blog. Remember that a good comment makes connections, asks a question, or gives an opinion in a respectful manner. You might want to quote the part of the blog that you are specifically referring to. Don’t be afraid to disagree with another writer, but be sure to explain yourself and remain polite.