This lesson is part of the Coral Reef Threats unit, which describes the natural and anthropogenic threats to coral reefs. Below is a summary of what is included in the entire unit. **THIS UNIT IS STILL IN DEVELOPMENT.**

**UNIT CONTENTS**

A. Lessons

**Crown-of-Thorns Threat**

**Watch It! Crown-of-Thorns Crisis**
- A worksheet to accompany the *Crown-of-Thorns Starfish Crisis* video

**Read It! Addressing Acanthaster**
- A worksheet to accompany the *Addressing Acanthaster* field blog

**Read It! Life, Death, and Rebirth**
- A worksheet to accompany the *Life, Death, and Rebirth* (Part 1 and Part 2) field blogs

**Overfishing Threat**

**Watch It! Ocean Alert: Overfishing**
- A worksheet to accompany the *Ocean Alert: Overfishing* video

**Read It! The Man-eaters**
- A worksheet to accompany the *The Man-eaters* field blog

**Read It! Best Wishes for Reef Fishes**
- A worksheet to accompany the *Best Wishes for Reef Fishes* field blog

**Read It! Sea Cucumber Craze**
- A worksheet to accompany the *Sea Cucumber Craze* (Part 1 and Part 2) field blogs
INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Read Addressing Acanthaster in Aitutaki, a blog from our Cook Island mission (http://www.livingoceans-foundation.org/aitutaki-acanthaster-cots/).

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 into 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. What is the central idea of this blog?

2. What is the purpose of the SCAR program? Cite specific textual evidence to support this.

3. Did the author fully support the need for the SCAR program? Explain why you think this.

4. *Corallivore, outbreak, and baseline survey* are specific vocabulary for the topic of this blog. Define them below.

5. Write a sentence of your own creation that connects the three words from #4, above.
6. Is this blog a reliable source for scientific information? Why or why not?

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

8. In this blog, the author mentions other COTS outbreaks he has surveyed. Compare and contrast how these two reefs appeared during their surveys: Rurutu and Rimatara, French Polynesia (http://www.livingoceansfoundation.org/wheres-the-coral/) and Cicia, Fiji (http://www.livingoceansfoundation.org/killer-starfish/). Be sure to cite the other sources of information in your answer.
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.