



Coral Reef in a Box

Coral reefs are important **ecosystems** that are being **harmed** by the effects of **climate change**. In this activity, your students will learn about coral reefs and their importance as well as how they're being harmed.

Activity

We recommend discussing the background information in the handout with your students **before** starting the arts & crafts portion of the activity. The arts & crafts portion can either be done at home or in class. It asks students to create their own **coral reef in a shoebox**. The reef should be **colourful** and filled with lots of different types of coral and sea life. Once the students have finished making their coral reefs we suggest you talk to them about the **solutions** mentioned below so they are left with a positive outlook in the end.

Things they'll need

- Glue or tape
- Scissors
- A shoebox

Things they can use

- Colourful paper
- Paint
- Clay
- Pipe cleaners
- Colour pencils, crayons, and markers



Solutions

- Stop releasing so many nasty gases (greenhouse gases) into the atmosphere.
- Protect coral reefs.
- If you go diving, try not to touch the coral.
- Throw away/recycle your plastic so that it's less likely to end up in the ocean. Plastic releases chemicals that are harmful to coral.

We welcome feedback and would be delighted to hear your thoughts on this activity. Feel free to send an email to schools@climatescience.org and we'll be sure to get back to you soon :)

