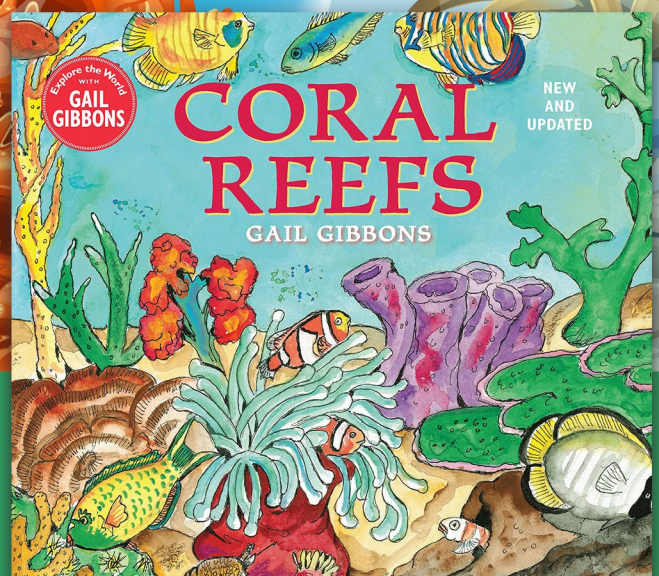


A Notebook Companion™ for
Coral Reefs by Gail Gibbons

LEARNING
ABOUT
Coral Reefs





Learning About Coral Reefs: A Notebook Companion™ to Coral Reefs by Gail Gibbons

by Carrie Fernandez and [WriteBonnieRose](#)

Images used courtesy of [Artifex](#).

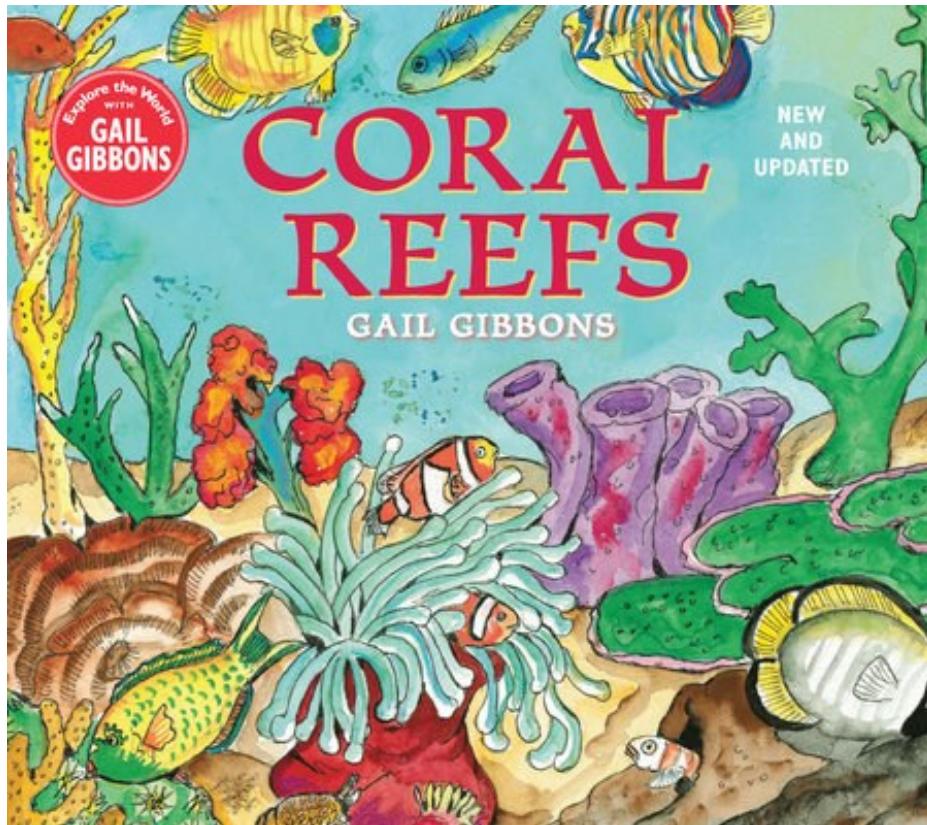
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Acknowledgement



Coral Reefs

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ISBN: 9780823443703

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What is life like in a coral reef? What do corals eat? Why are corals more colorful at nighttime? Learn about some of the most beautiful locations in the natural world.

Today, this active environment is home to about 20,000 kinds of brilliantly colored corals, plants, and animals—more sea creatures than are found anywhere else in the world. The Great Barrier Reef in Australia is so large that astronauts can see it from outer space! Children in early elementary grades will enjoy Gibbons' informative text and clear, detailed illustrations on this journey into the unique lives of coral reefs.

Learning About Habitats

Help your students learn about coral reefs, the deep ocean, and deserts with the Learning About Habitats Set. Your kids can learn from age-appropriate text and bright, colorful illustrations that teach them about how scientists study the deep ocean, many types of coral, the world of animals that make coral reefs their home, the fascinating plants and animals that live in the desert, and much more. Along the way, they'll develop notebooking skills that can help them for years to come in every grade and subject.

Each book in this series features beautiful illustrations of the topics being explored. Each Notebook Companion™ gives your kids room to answer questions, write about what they've learned, and draw and sketch each example. They can also enjoy bonus coloring pages featuring some of the amazing things they've discovered. Come explore coral reefs, the deep ocean, and the desert with these three publisher-approved Notebook Companions.

[Discover all three Notebook Companions](#)

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NOTEBOOKING

A Creative Kid's Favorite Way to Homeschool

Notebooking is a great way to learn that incorporates many different elements, such as open-ended questions, written narration, drawing and sketching, labeling diagrams, drawing maps, and more – all in the student's own words.

Notebooking allows creative students to excel and provides an opportunity to **document learned material in a customizable way**. Notebooking is a creative kid's favorite way to homeschool!

What is Notebooking?

Notebooking is basically journaling. Your student's notebook will have a **written element and a visual component** and will be a compilation of important things in the form of **written narrations, sketches, and more** that document what has been learned.

Customizable & Creative Individual Notebooks

When you are teaching multiple children of different ages, it's easy to use the notebook approach in your homeschool. All you need are good living books, someone to read them to your children (yourself or an older child), and a Notebook Companion™ or blank notebooking pages.

There are all sorts of **creative ways to customize a student's notebooking journal**. If you are using a three-ringed binder, it's easy to insert extras. Here are some examples of things you can add to your student's notebook: written narration, artwork, maps, timelines, field trip notes and pictures, creative writing assignments, graphic organizers, magazine clippings, paper crafts, brochures, essays and research papers (as they get older), book reports, copywork, vocabulary journal pages, poetry, charts and diagrams, photographs, and more!

Notebooking with Beginners

If your child can draw and orally narrate back to you what they have learned, you can start notebooking with them. You may need to ask your child questions and write down what they say if they don't have the ability to write it for themselves. They will have a blast drawing what they see in their minds, and their notebooking journals will be treasured keepsakes for years to come.

As younger students progress with writing abilities, notebooking will be a familiar form of learning for them, and they will know what to do. You could also use a Notebook Companion™ specifically for younger children. We have Beginner's Notebook Companions™ for grades K-3 that incorporate drawing and narration as well as other activities such as coloring and matching when possible.

There's No Right or Wrong Way to Notebook

Unlike worksheets and tests, notebooking doesn't have an answer key. There's no right or wrong way to do it. Since notebooking encourages creativity and individuality, your children may record totally different facts on their own pages, even after reading the same book.

Notebooking encourages out-of-the-box thinking, and you'll want to steer clear of requiring specific things to be detailed if you are using a blank notebook template or a sheet of blank paper. If you would like to use question prompts and boxes that provide space to draw specific things from the text, consider our Notebook Companions™, which are a great transition from worksheets to notebooking.

How Do I Grade a Notebook Page?

You may be wondering if you need to correct or grade a student's notebook pages. A notebook page is not an essay or a research paper, and you don't want to mark it all up with a red pen. The idea is to encourage students to learn a ton, record facts they have learned, and allow them to ENJOY it! You can save grading papers and critiquing writing skills for when they are doing a composition assignment or a grammar lesson. Notebooking success is simply watching your students enjoy learning!

How to Use This Notebook Companion™

All our Notebook Companions are self-paced. You simply use the Notebook Companion™ alongside the book it accompanies, and students complete the notebooking pages as you read through the book together or independently.

Learning About Coral Reefs

Notebook Companion™ for *Coral Reefs*

We've designed *Learning About Coral Reefs* to be used with younger elementary students as well as older students as desired. The format of *Coral Reefs* is very appealing to young students, but the vocabulary in some parts is more than many young readers can read on their own. With that in mind, we suggest that you read the book aloud to your younger students and dictate the questions for them to answer. If they are unable to write their answers, you can record the answers for them.

This is a great way to introduce them to the idea and practice of notebooking, and you can customize it as much as you wish. For example, for the youngest students, you may wish to read the passages, ask them a few of the questions (but not all), record their answers, and have them draw the examples. For older students, you might ask them to complete all the questions and draw all of the examples.

Note to Parents

There are a few pages or sections of pages you may want to skip over. Pages 4 and 27 mention "millions of years." Page 28 includes a picture of a girl in a bathing suit, and page 29 mentions global warming. No questions are included from the text on these pages, but animals from page 27 are included in the drawing assignments.

Coral Reefs

What shines through water into a coral reef?

What is a reef like?

What is an ecosystem?

What is the equator?

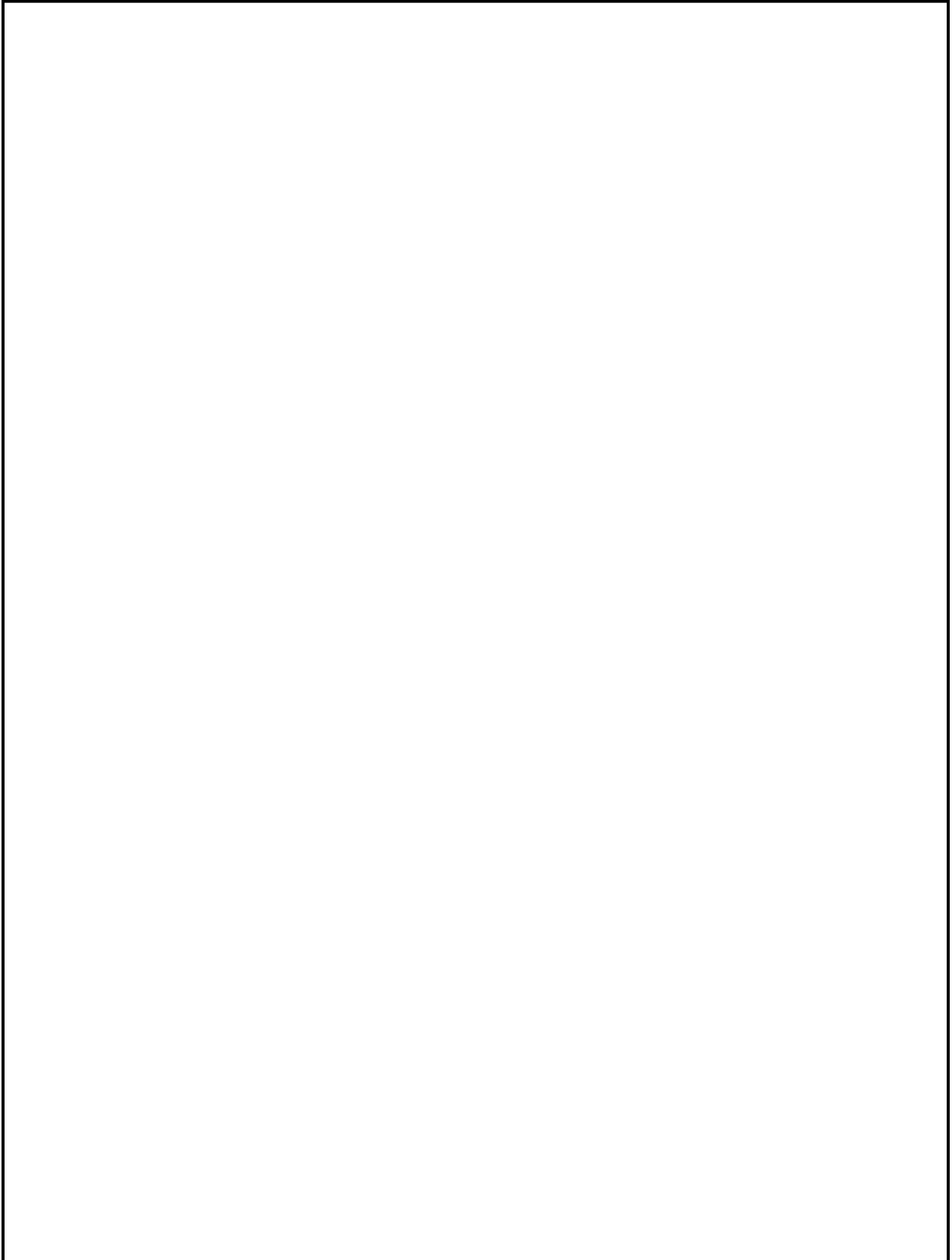
Where can you find tropical coral reefs?

Tropical coral reefs need a special what to survive?

A tropical coral reef grows in water that is usually between what temperatures?

Learning About Coral Reefs

Draw and label a picture of leafy coral and elkhorn coral.

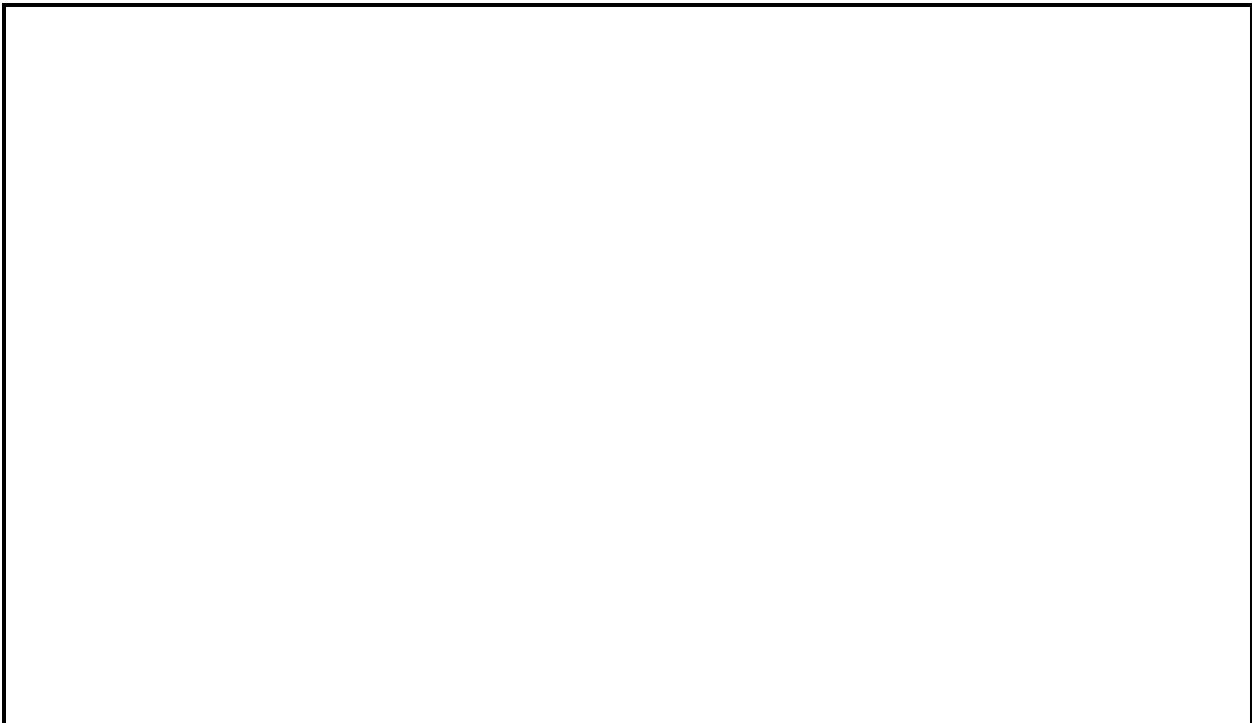


Learning About Coral Reefs

What do coral polyps produce?

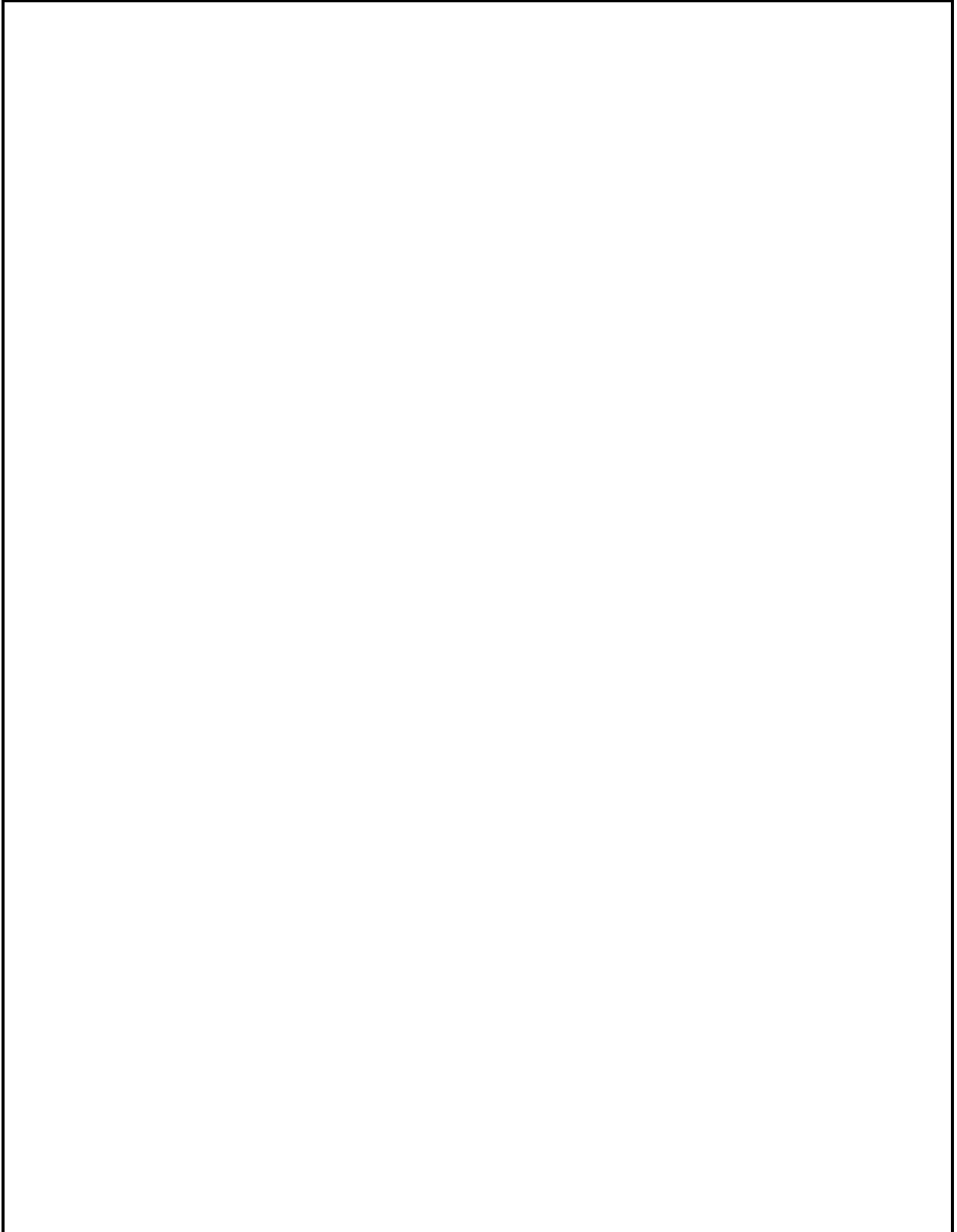
What remains after the coral polyp dies?

Draw and label a picture of cup coral and finger coral.



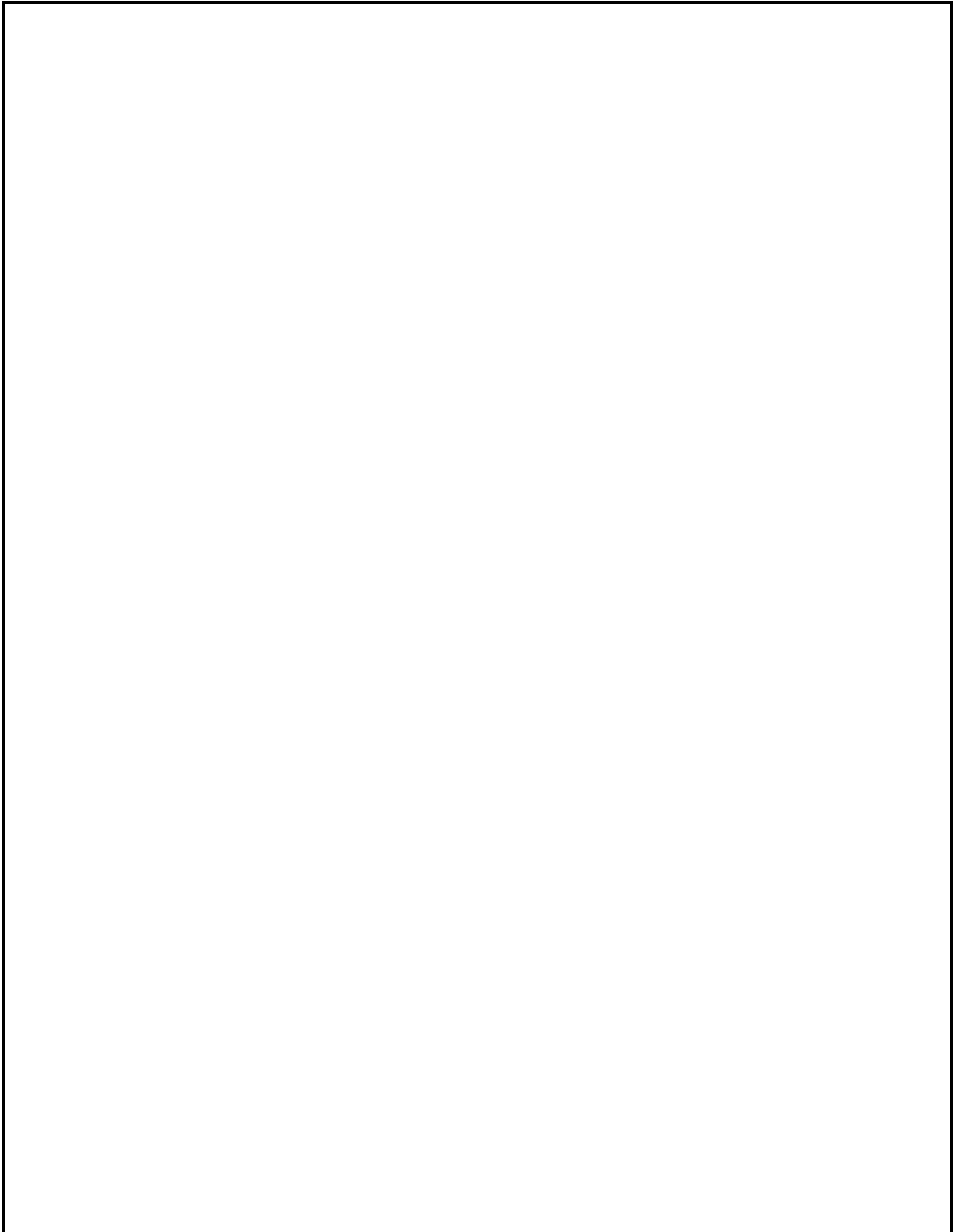
Learning About Coral Reefs

Draw and label a picture that shows anglerfish, diadem dottybacks, and longsnout sea horses.



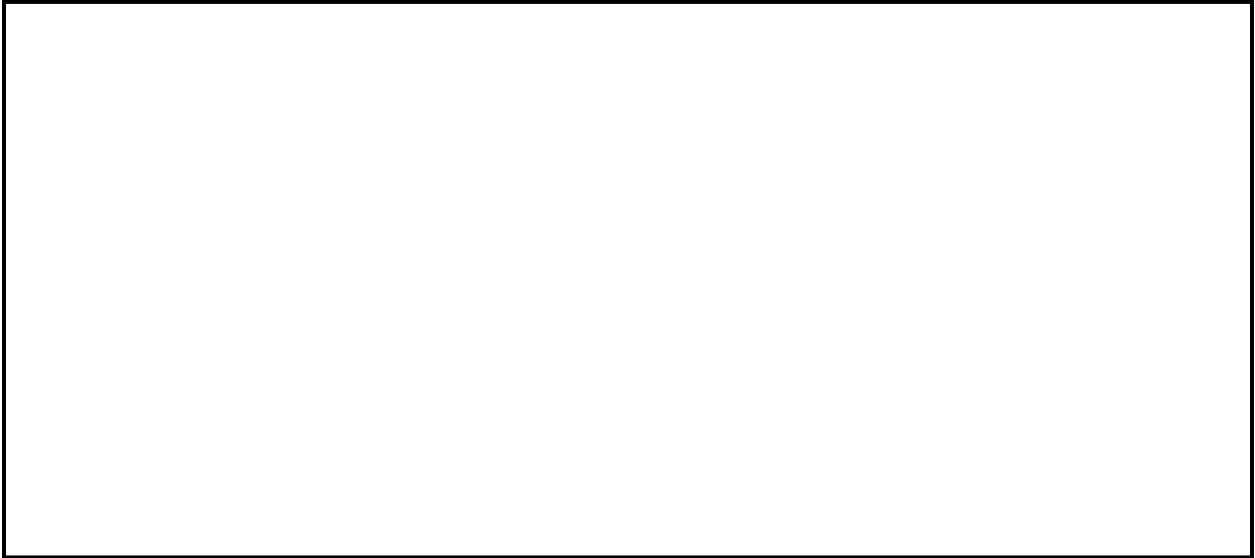
Learning About Coral Reefs

Draw and label a picture that shows leather coral, brain coral, branching coral, and encrusting coral.



Learning About Coral Reefs

Draw and label a picture of a bullseye cardinalfish and a Meyer's butterflyfish.



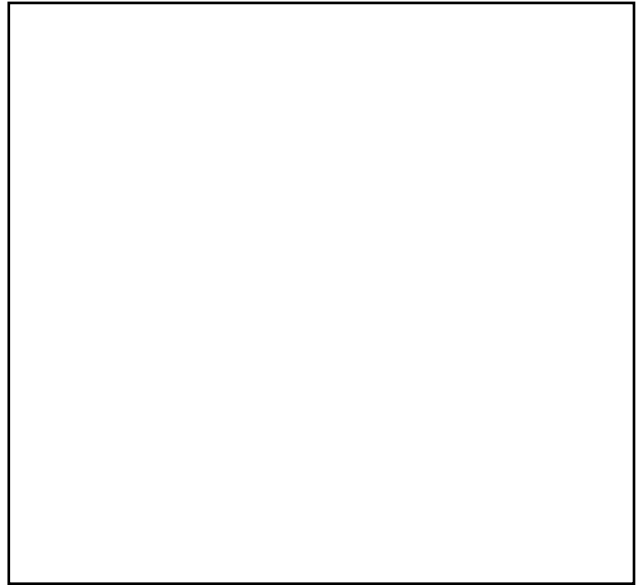
What is at the base of each coral polyp?

What happens as the coral grows?

Coral Reef Facts

Draw a picture representing each fact and describe it on the lines.

Coral Reefs Are Hard



United States

