Living things on the Reef

Virtual Learning Experiences

Program overview:

Discover some of the iconic habitats in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and identify which living things in each habitat are producers, consumers or decomposers. Learn how habitat complexity provides more places for animals to live, and examine what happens to organisms when habitats change. Make predictions about how various human activities may impact food chains and predator-prey relationships. Explore interactions between different living things and determine which interactions are competitive, and which are mutually beneficial.

Please note: this program can be tailored to suit students' learning needs and curriculum requirements.

Program duration: 60 minutes
Program cost: AUD $155.00 (Inc. GST)

Australian Curriculum Links:

Year	Subject	Code
1	Science	ACSSU017
3	Science	ACSSU073
5	Science	ACSSU043

Cross-curricular priorities:

Sustainability

How do I book?

Complete the Booking Request Form and email it to education@gbrmpa.gov.au.

Note: your booking is not confirmed until you receive a booking confirmation email from the Reef Education team.

Questions?

Please refer to our Virtual Learning Experiences page, or email education@gbrmpa.gov.au.

Living things on the Reef program outline:

Runtime: 60 minutes **Timings are indicative only*.

*Please let us know if you would like to include a 1-minute stretch break for younger students.

Pre-presentation set up	5 minutes prior to session start time	Audio Visual Check	Camera – teacher to set up the camera so presenters can see students. Microphone – check that microphone is connected and working. ***If one class is connecting,*** leave the microphone unmuted so that presenter can ask questions throughout the session. ***If multiple classes are connecting,*** please mute your microphones and host will advise teacher to unmute during question time.
Welcome and Introduction to the Great Barrier Reef	0-5 min (5 min)	Meet the Reef Education host Acknowledgement of Country Explain format of the session Introduction to the Great Barrier Reef, its biological diversity and the habitats that are found there.	Acknowledgement of Country – if known teacher/student could acknowledge the First Nation people's country where they are situated.
Roles of living things on the Reef	5-10 min (5 min)	Overview of the roles of different living things: • Producers • Consumers • Decomposers	Teacher to help facilitate questions throughout the session by selecting students to ask/answer questions and by unmuting and muting microphone, as necessary. Note: for younger students we will have a short stretch break during the session if needed.
Habitats in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	10-15 min (5 min)	Overview of some of the iconic habitats in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park: • Coral reefs • Seagrass beds • Sandy sea floors • Mangrove forests	
Who fills the different roles in each habitat?	15-25 min (10 min)	Identify the roles of living things in the different habitats. Explore how habitat complexity provides more places for animals to live.	
What happens when habitats change?	25-35 min (10 min)	Discussion of how human activities can change habitats, and the effect this has on the organisms that live there.	

How can human activities change food chains?	35-45 min (10 min)	Using a simple food chain, predict what happens to predator-prey relationships when an animal is affected by human activities.	This activity will be led by the education host.
Reef relationships	45-55 min (10 min)	We look at various symbiotic relationships in the marine environment and discuss how they are either mutualistic, commensal or parasitic.	
Final messages	55-60 min (5 min)	The presenter will close with an interactive review of the main concepts presented and a summary.	

To explore other Reef related teaching and learning resources check out our Reefed resources page.