



# The Booklist Project

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Focus: Coral Reefs  
Developed by: Denise Hise  
SPRING, 2014

## Denise Hise

### Book List: Coral Reefs, Reading level 3-6

1. Walker, S.M. (2008). *Reefs*. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner.

[ ISBN-10: 0-8225-6738-5 ISBN-13: 978-0-8225-6738-7 ]

Glorious photos and diagrams plus in depth coverage of various types of reefs including coral and fossil reefs make this a real science book. Discusses what reefs are, how and where they form, symbiosis of algae inside the polyps and the role of human activity in both harming and protecting the reefs. Especially great for ELLs: includes a good glossary, pronunciation guide for key terms, related books and websites, a word detective for frontloading terms, and questions at the start of each chapter to focus attention. (< 40 pages)

<https://www.lernerbooks.com/products/t/5549/9780822567387/reefs>

Reading level: 3.0 Lexile Level: 680 Guided Reading Level: R

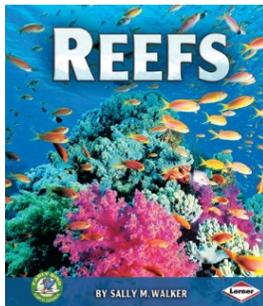
Proficiency level: Developing

Format: paperback, hardcover

On-line resources: [www.photolib.noaa.gov/reef](http://www.photolib.noaa.gov/reef)

[www.reefrelief.org/kids/index.shtml](http://www.reefrelief.org/kids/index.shtml)

<http://www.factmonster.com/tfk/magazines/story/0,6277,59711,00.html>



2. Pike, K. & Turner, G. (2002). *Coral reefs*. Broomall, PA: Chelsea Clubhouse.

[ ISBN: 0791072851 ISBN-13: 9780791072851 ]

A *real* first reef book. Includes fabulous photos and interesting text covering everything from the definition of coral and how it forms to food chains, symbiosis, predators and threats to endangered reefs. ELLs will be helped to learn the structures and conventions of nonfiction writing by the content, layout, language and writing style of the book. (< 20 pages)

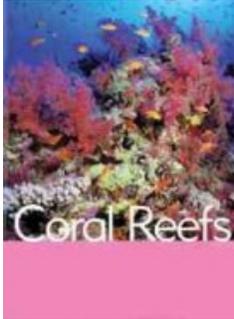
Reading level: 4.2

Proficiency level: Developing

Format: paperback, hardcover

On-line resources: Teaching Guide with guided reading/writing lesson plans -

<http://ebookstorm.com/ebook/2423484/oceans-starter-pack-go-facts>



3. Gaarder-Juntti, O. (2009). *What lives in coral reefs*. Edina, MN: ABDO Publishing.

[ ISBN-13: 978-1-60453-170-1 ]

<http://www.abdopub.com/shop/pc/configurePrd.asp?idproduct=15129>

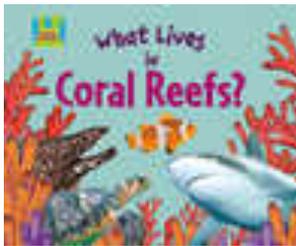
Very basic introduction to coral reef structure. Simple text, professionally and specifically designed for emerging and beginning readers, describes the many types of animals that can be found living in coral reefs. Animals seem to be chosen for kid-appeal, such as the Christmas tree worm, clownfish and pufferfish. Colorful photographs, a good map of reef locations and interesting facts help make this a good first reef book for ELLs to build literacy and increase the reader's general knowledge about the world around them. (< 20 pages)

Reading level: 3.7 Guided Reading Level: L

Proficiency level: Emerging

Format: hardcover

On-line resources: Lesson plans and activities - <http://ocean.si.edu/corals-and-coral-reefs>



4. Cooper, J. (1992). *Coral reefs*. Vero Beach, FL: Rourke Corp.

[ ISBN-13: 978-0-86593-229-6 ]

Simple non-technical language. Good pictures. Basic reef info: describes the coral animals, formation of reefs and life in this unique habitat. A good 'first pass' book to introduce the topic to ELLs. (< 20 pages)

Reading level: 4.6

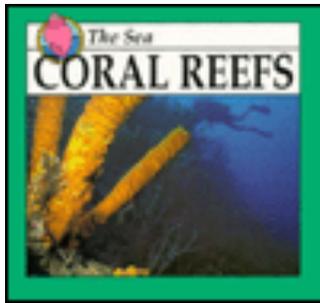
Proficiency level: Developing

Format: hardcover

On-line resources: <http://hilo.hawaii.edu/affiliates/prism/documents/WhatisCoralLessonOne.pdf>

<http://www.kahuwaiproject.org/linksreading.php>

<http://server.shopdei.com/126.0061g.pdf>



5. Levy, J. (2008). *Discovering coral reefs*. New York, NY: Rosen.

[ ISBN-10: 1-4042-3786-0 ISBN-13: 978-1-4042-3786-5 ]

Describes animals of the reef along with the algae and phytoplankton. Contains good examples and descriptions of symbiosis, notably zooxanthellae, anemone fish and cleaner fish.

Demonstrates for ELLs the global location of reefs, the importance of coral reefs to ecology and humanity, and highlights reef protection strategies that all peoples can engage in. (< 30 pages)

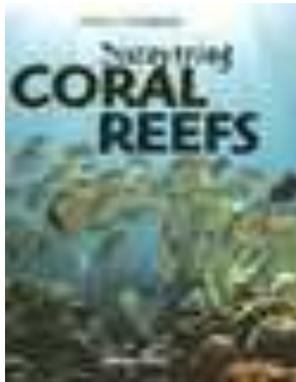
Reading level: 5.5

Proficiency level: Developing

Format: hardcover

On-line resources: [www.powerkidslinks.com/whab/coral](http://www.powerkidslinks.com/whab/coral) (listed but not available)

<http://depts.washington.edu/marbio/links/mbbooks.pdf>



6. Coldiron, D. (2008). *Coral*. Edina, MN: ABDO Publishing.

[ ISBN-10: 1-5992-8811-7 ISBN-13: 978-1-5992-8811-6 ]

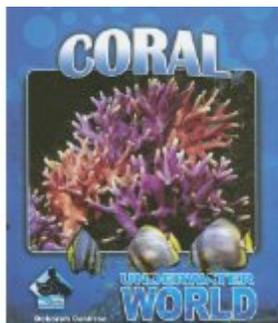
Wonderful pictures, large print, 'fast facts' almost every other page and fascinating facts at the end make this a top choice for ELLs. It details the coral animals, their anatomy, growth, symbionts, reproduction, feeding, relatives, neighbors, habitat, diet, as well as their sensitivity and numerous threats to their survival. This book might be used to fill out the coral section of the reef books. (< 30 pages)

Reading level: 4.5

Proficiency level: Emerging

Format: hardcover, Flip book, e-book

On-line resources:



7. Scarborough, K. (1997). *Coral reef*. Time-Life Education.

[ ISBN-10: 0-7835-4880-X ISBN-13: 978-0-7835-4880-7 ]

The step-cut pages of this book were designed to enable readers to focus on the development of a coral reef over hundreds of years. An interesting concept accompanied by a few good diagrams of coral anatomy and growth, reproduction, reefs types and locations. Phased introduction of the topic should work well for ELLs. (< 20 pages)

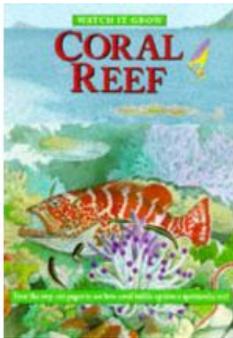
Reading level: grades 4-6 (ages 9-12)

Proficiency level: Developing

Format: hardcover

On-line resources: <http://www.nsta.org/publications/news/story.aspx?id=40812>

[http://www.coexploration.org/bbsr/coral/html/body\\_bookstore.html](http://www.coexploration.org/bbsr/coral/html/body_bookstore.html)



8. Ethan, E. & Bearanger, M. (1997). *Coral reef feeders*. Milwaukee, WI: Gareth Stevens.

[ ISBN-10: 0-8368-1738-9 ISBN-13: 978-0-8368-1738-6 ]

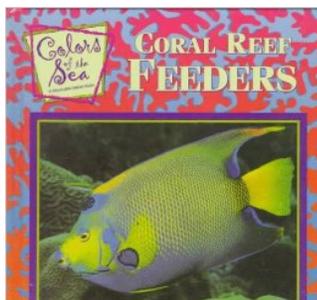
A short book that presents information on some of the predators of the coral reefs – angelfish, filefish, butterflyfish, parrotfish, nudibranchs, starfish. Also discusses reef erosion and damage to the reefs caused by overpopulation of some starfish. This would be a good extension book for coverage of reef predators and damage for interested ELLs. (< 20 pages)

Reading level: 5.5

Proficiency level: Developing/Expanding

Format: hardcover

On-line resources: 2 listed websites, both defunct



9. Ethan, E. & Bearanger, M. (1997). *Coral reef partners*. Milwaukee, WI: Gareth Stevens.  
[ ISBN-10: 0-8368-1740-0 ISBN-13: 978-0-8368-1740-9 ]

A short book that presents information on some of the symbiotic partners of the coral reefs – anemonefish, cleaning gobies and wrasses, zooxanthellae. Also discusses reef commensals and parasites. Reef fragility and the symbiotic role of humans in protecting reef biomes is also featured. This would be a good extension book for coverage of reef partners and symbiosis for interested ELLs. (< 25 pages)

Reading level: 5.5

Proficiency level: Developing

Format: hardcover

On-line resources: <http://www.coexploration.org/bbsr/coral/html/bookstore.html>



10. Earle, S.A. (2003). *Coral reefs*. Washington, DC: National Geographic Society.

[ ISBN-10: 0-7922-6953-5 ISBN-13: 978-1-4263-0475-0 ]

Enchanting drawings and storybook text introduce coral reefs to youngsters. Through very relatable language, readers discover how reefs grow and support the life of many ocean dwellers. Their importance as well as their magnificence and need for protection is made apparent. A superb book to engage ELLs and any other young readers. (< 30 pages)

Reading level: 4.4 Guided Reading Level: O

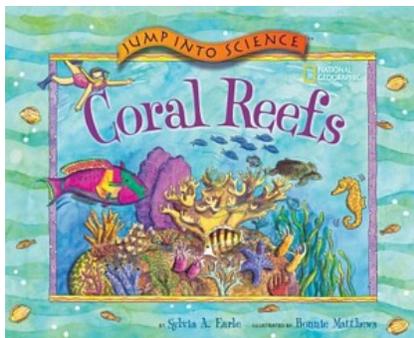
Proficiency level: Developing/Expanding

Format: hardcover, paperback

On-line resources:

<http://classroombookshelf.blogspot.com/2012/05/life-in-ocean-story-of-oceanographer.html>

<http://www.discovery.com/tv-shows/curiosity/topics/s-earle-what-happens-if-earths-coral-reefs-disappear.htm>



11. Chin, J. (2011). *Coral reefs*. New York, NY: Roaring Brook Press.

[ ISBN-13: 978-1-5964-3563-6 ]

Fanciful imaginary trip through coral reef cities introduces reef concepts and inhabitants. This book is surprisingly comprehensive and will get kids and ELLs interested in reading as well as in reefs. A nice end section covering reef protection and preservation is included. (< 30 pages)

Reading level: 6.4 Lexile Level: 1010

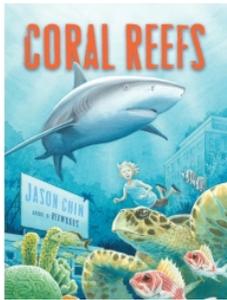
Proficiency level: Expanding/Bridging

Format: hardcover, eBook

On-line resources:

[http://suzyred.com/2013\\_Coral\\_Reefs.html](http://suzyred.com/2013_Coral_Reefs.html)

<http://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=27331&a=1>



12. Wojahn, R.H. & Wojahn, D. (2010). *A coral reef food chain*. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner Publications.

[ ISBN-10: 0-8225-7611-2 ISBN-13: 978-0-8225-7611-2 ]

Intriguing details of an extended cast of reef characters for the reef enthusiast. This would be a good book for building food web vocabulary for ELLs and other readers. Good pictures, although fairly long. (< 60 pages)

Reading level: 4.0 Guided Reading Level: LL

Proficiency level: Developing

Format: hardcover, eBook

On-line resources:

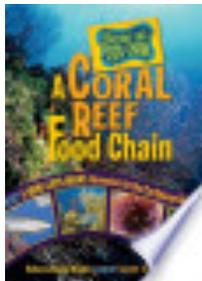
[www.reef.edu.au](http://www.reef.edu.au)

[www.reefrelief.org](http://www.reefrelief.org)

<http://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=16886&a=1>

<http://simplyscience.wordpress.com/2009/11/04/a-coral-reef-food-chain/>

<https://www.lernerbooks.com/digitalassets/Assets/Title%20Assets/8529/9780822576112/Teaching%20Guide.pdf>



13. Phillips, D. (2006) *Find it on a coral reef*. Milwaukee, WI: Gareth Stevens.

[ ISBN-10: 0-8368-6302-X ]

Engaging pictures and descriptions of reef animals. Easy text. Great pictures. Wonderful book for introducing kids and ELLs to sea animals and preparing them for reef lessons.

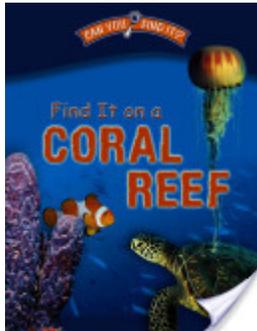
(< 20 pages)

Reading level: 4.2 [see PermaBound]

Proficiency level: Emerging

Format: hardcopy

On-line resources:



14. Green, J. (2010) *Life in a coral reef*. New York, NY: Gareth Stevens.

[ ISBN-13: 978-1-4339-3423-0 ]

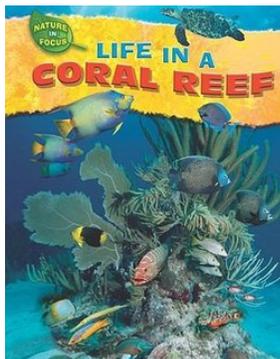
Interesting details on reef dwellers not found in other books on this list. An interesting mix of drawings and photos will especially help ELLs. Additional facts outside the main text make this a very adaptable and attractive book for all students. (< 30 pages)

Reading level: 5.9

Proficiency level: Developing/Expanding

Format: hardcover

On-line resources:



15. Patent, D. H. (2003) *Colorful captivating coral reefs*. New York, NY: Walker Publishing.  
[ ISBN-10: 0-8027-8862-9 ]

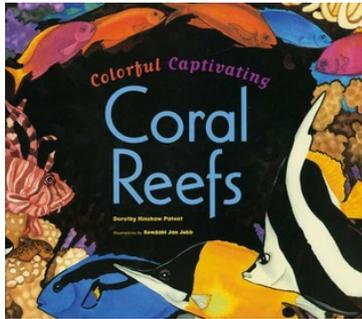
Beautiful drawings and comic-sans font contributes to the storybook feel of this charming book. Nice sections on symbiosis, endangered reefs and protection of reefs too. A good choice for more advanced young readers and ELLs. (< 40 pages)

Reading level: 6.0

Proficiency level: Developing

Format: hardcover

On-line resources: <http://inkrethink.blogspot.com/2011/11/thinking-about-habitats.html>



## Websites and Videos:

March 6, 2014: New reef discovered!

<http://news.discovery.com/earth/oceans/first-known-coral-reef-discovered-in-iraq-140305.htm>

## Protecting coral reefs

<http://www.underwatersculpture.com/projects/mexico/> (Jason deCaires Taylor site)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AcAAdIzsXZI> (interview with Jason deCaires Taylor)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q0OXACplKXo> (Cancun coral reef – underwater art)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ql7LWfpMzPI> (Cancun MUSA Underwater Museum)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vKxrVmfU3-E> (Human Nature by Jason deCaires Taylor)

## Reef education

<http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/coral-reefs>

[http://www.ducksters.com/science/ecosystems/coral\\_reef\\_biome.php](http://www.ducksters.com/science/ecosystems/coral_reef_biome.php)

[http://www.ecokids.ca/pub/eco\\_info/topics/oceans/coral\\_reefs.cfm](http://www.ecokids.ca/pub/eco_info/topics/oceans/coral_reefs.cfm)

[http://www.ecokids.ca/pub/eco\\_info/topics/oceans/risks\\_to\\_oceans.cfm#coral-reef-damage](http://www.ecokids.ca/pub/eco_info/topics/oceans/risks_to_oceans.cfm#coral-reef-damage)

<http://oceanworld.tamu.edu/students/coral/index.html>

<http://oceanworld.tamu.edu/students/coral/coral5.htm>

<http://www.photolib.noaa.gov/reef/>

<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/videos/nature/greatbarrierreef.html>

<http://kids.nceas.ucsb.edu/biomes/coralreef.html>

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## The Booklist Project

A Project of the  
M.Ed. In TESL Program,



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Rhode Island College

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