

Coral Reef Habitat



An at home, do-it yourself family activity for Ages 7 and up.

Provided by Gumbo Limbo education staff.

Definition of a **coral reef**: Coral reefs are large underwater structures composed of the skeletons of colonial marine invertebrates. Coral are actually related to jellyfish!

Check out these cool videos about Coral Reefs:

[PBS - A Night in the Coral Reef](#)

[PBS - Energy Flow in the Coral Reef Ecosystem](#)

Just a few examples of coral out of the hundreds of different species:



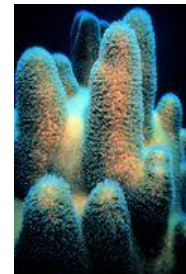
Brain



Staghorn Coral



Spiral Wire Coral



Pillar Coral

3 Different types of coral reefs:



Fringe reef: grows close to a shoreline



Barrier reef: grows farther from the shoreline



Atoll reef: a ring-shaped reef, formed from a sunken or submerged volcano