



DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENT  
CAYMAN ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

REEF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FOUNDATION

# Grouper Moon Project Curriculum

Year 4



*Extreme Coral Reef!  
Read Aloud and Questions*

# CREDITS

Year 4 Cayman Islands content written and created by Todd Bohannon.  
Special thanks to REEF's Grouper Moon Project Education and Scientific staff,  
Cayman Islands Ministry of Education Staff, and Cayman Islands Department  
of Environment Staff.

## CREATION AND REVISION HISTORY:

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# Extreme Coral Reef!

## OVERVIEW REFERENCE SHEET YEAR 4

<b>DURATION:</b> 45 Min.	<b>METHOD:</b> Group, Individual, Partners
<b>MATERIALS:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Extreme Coral Reef! (Book)</li><li>• Comprehension questions (handouts)</li></ul>	<b>SUBJECT(S):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Science</li><li>• Language Arts</li></ul>

### **OBJECTIVES:**

- Understand what corals are and how they live.
- Understand the role corals play in the coral reef ecosystem.
- Understanding of the array of marine life that inhabits a tropical coral reef.
- Understanding of the interconnectedness of all life in on the cora reef.

### **NATIONAL SCIENCE CURRICULUM ALIGNMENT: YEAR 4**

- Recognize that living things can be grouped in a number of ways.
- Explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment.
- Observe similarities and differences among animals and among plants.
- Find out about other animals, including how they grow, feed, move, and use their senses.
- Investigate a local habitat, including the relationship between the animals and plants found there, and develop skills in classifying animals and plants by observing external features.

# Extreme Coral Reef! Building Background Knowledge

Your student's learning will be greatly enhanced if they have some basic, background knowledge about coral reef ecosystems before jumping into their study of the Nassau grouper. To accomplish this, we recommend reading the picture book, "Extreme Coral Reef!" with your students. This text, produced by the Smithsonian, covers a range of important ecological concepts about coral reef ecosystems in a way that understandable for young people.

We have broken the book up into two, read-aloud sessions, each with their own set of comprehension questions for your students to answer afterwards.



## Session 1:

Explain to the class that they will learn about the coral reef today. Ask what students already know about coral reefs. After the students have shared what they know, read aloud from "Extreme Coral Reef!" to page 15. After the read-aloud, ask if students have any questions or comments. Ask, "What is something new you learned?" After a brief whole class discussion, dismiss your students to work in partners or small groups to answer the comprehension questions for "Extreme Coral Reef! Pt.1"

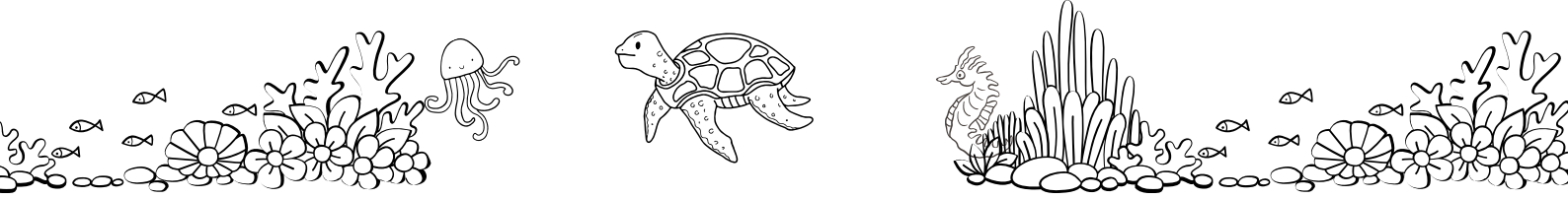
## Session 2:

Read aloud from "Extreme Coral Reef!" from page 16 up through page 34. After the read-aloud, ask if students have any questions or comments. Ask, "What is something new that you learned?" After a brief whole class discussion, dismiss your students to work in partners or small groups to answer the comprehension questions for "Extreme Coral Reef! Pt.2"

## Extension:

While students will get all the information they need for participating in Grouper Moon from reading the first 35 pages of the book, if you have the time, we recommend reading the rest with your students. Afterward, have the students share what they learned from this book. Ask them what questions they still have and keep a record of those questions as many will be answered in the next lessons, and those that are not will be excellent questions to ask the scientists during the livestreams.





## EXTREME CORAL REEF! Pt.2

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Read and answer the following questions using complete sentences. Use the back side of this page if you need more room to write.

1. Name the different types of CORAL REEFS. Explain what type of reef grows here in the Cayman Islands

2. When are predators most likely to hunt in the reef? Explain why?

3. How do reef animals help each other? Give at least one example.

List 10 different CORAL REEF animals we read about:

- 1:
- 2:
- 3:
- 4:
- 5:
- 6:
- 7:
- 8:
- 9:
- 10:

