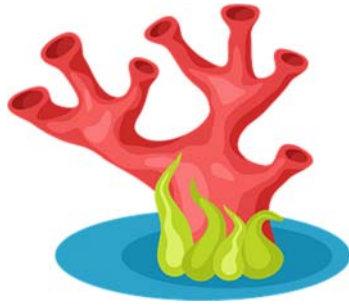


Name _____



Exit Slip: Reef Reflections

Directions: Read the passage carefully. Think about the **main idea** and what the author wants you to understand. Write a short reflection (3-4 sentences) that answers these two questions:

- What did you learn from the passage?
- Why does this information matter (to you, your community, or the world)?

Be thoughtful and specific in your reflection.

Coral Reefs Under Threat

Coral reefs are often called the “rainforests of the sea” because they support an incredible variety of marine life. Thousands of fish, plants, and other creatures depend on reefs for food and shelter. Reefs also protect coastal communities by acting as natural barriers against strong waves and storms. Unfortunately, coral reefs are in danger due to pollution, rising ocean temperatures, and destructive fishing practices. When corals become stressed, they can turn white in a process called bleaching, which makes it harder for them to survive. Scientists warn that if reefs continue to decline, entire ecosystems and human livelihoods will be at risk. However, efforts like reducing pollution, creating marine protected areas, and using sustainable fishing methods can help reefs recover. Protecting coral reefs is not just about saving beautiful ocean scenery, it’s about safeguarding biodiversity and the balance of the planet’s ecosystems.

Reflection:
