

Reef Reactions Answer Key

1. Cause: Rising ocean temperatures.

Effect: Coral bleaching and weakened coral.

2. Cause: Pollution from coastal areas.

Effect: Harm to fish, coral, and marine life.

3. Cause: Excess sediment.

Effect: Sunlight is blocked and coral cannot survive well.

4. Cause: Overfishing.

Effect: Loss of important species that keep the ecosystem balanced.

5. Cause: Reef damage or decline.

Effect: Negative impacts on tourism, fishing, and cultural traditions.

Teacher's Guide

- Read the description aloud to support comprehension.
- Discuss the idea of cause and effect before students begin.
- Encourage students to highlight phrases in the text that show a direct relationship between events.

Differentiation Tips

- Provide a graphic organizer with labeled boxes for students who need structured support.
- Offer sentence starters such as The cause is or The effect is.
- Allow advanced learners to write an additional cause and effect pair not listed in the worksheet.

Engagement Ideas

- Show photos of healthy coral versus bleached coral to build background knowledge.
- Ask students what questions they have about coral reefs and record their ideas.