

Name _____

Bleaching Balance Answer Key

1. Rising ocean temperatures cause coral bleaching.
2. Text One explains how coral loses algae and becomes weak, while Text Two explains that coral can recover if conditions improve.
3. Human activities increase ocean warming and pollution, which makes bleaching more frequent and recovery harder.
4. Repeated bleaching reduces the coral ability to survive long term.
5. Coral depends on stable temperatures, clean water, and algae for survival, and damage to any of these can lead to reef decline.

Teacher's Guide

- This worksheet builds skills in **synthesizing information**, comparing sources, and drawing **integrated conclusions**.
- For differentiation, assign students one text at a time and discuss key ideas before combining them.
- For engagement, show before and after images of bleached coral and healthy reef systems.
- For extension, have students research one real world coral reef and evaluate its current condition.
- For advanced learners, ask students to evaluate which source focuses more on recovery versus long term risk.
- For struggling readers, provide a short summary checklist for each text before students answer synthesis questions.