

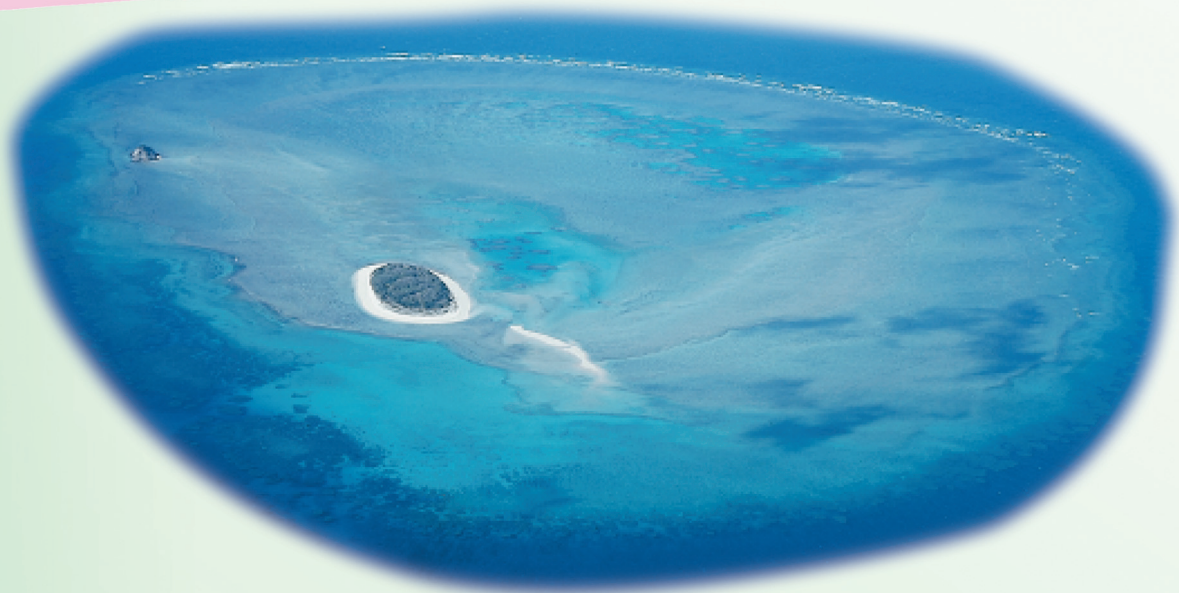
A CORAL REEF

Corals are tiny animals that live in warm seas. Each coral animal makes a little cup and lives inside it. When the coral animal dies, another coral grows on the cup. Slowly they get bigger and bigger. They make wonderful shapes. Some look like trees; others look like flowers.



When many corals grow in the same place they make a coral reef. Lots of sea animals live on a coral reef. Sea anemones wave their arms in the water. Beautiful starfish look for food. There are shells, too. Sometimes crabs live inside them. And there are fish – hundreds and hundreds of fish. Some are large and some are small. Some have stripes. Some have spots. They are all the colours of the rainbow. How many colours can you see?





The Great Barrier Reef is in the north east of Australia. It is more than 2,000 kilometres long and it is the biggest coral reef in the world. More than 350 kinds of coral grow there. More than 1,000 kinds of fish live there.

The Great Barrier Reef is one of the most beautiful places in the world. Every year thousands of visitors go there. Some of the visitors swim and dive in the clear blue water. Other people visit the reef in boats with glass bottoms. They enjoy looking at the coral, the beautiful fish and all the other animals that live on the reef.

