

Článek o korálových útesech

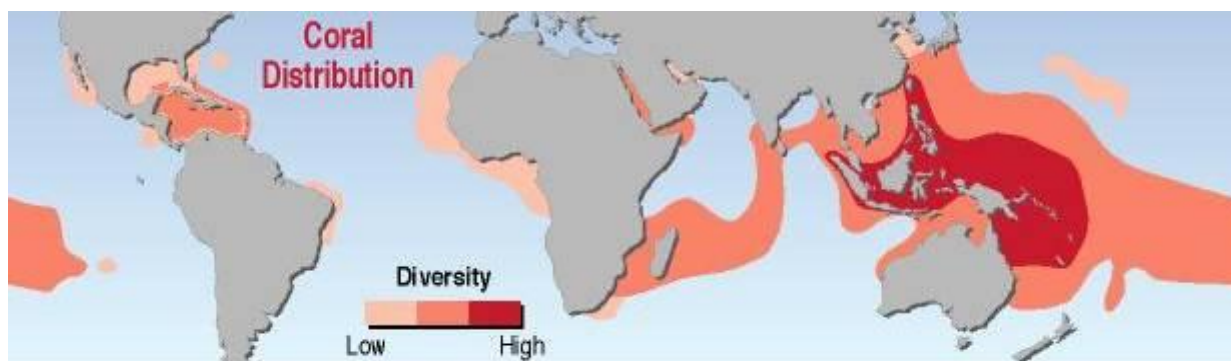
Coral reefs

Coral reefs are one of the oldest ecosystems on the Earth. They have been living here for many millions of years.

Coral reefs are created by corals that are very small animals. They eat plankton (microscopic plants and animals). Corals don't live alone – they live together in colonies. You can find thousands of corals in one colony. Colonies are sessile – it means that they stay in one place their whole life and they don't move. Corals build a big house from calcium carbonate as protection against predators. The house grows very slowly (from 0.3 to 10 centimeters per year).

Corals need very clean and shallow water. They don't like water deeper than 50 meters, so they usually live near the coast. Coral reefs live only in warm seas and oceans between 30⁰ north and 30⁰ south latitudes of the Equator. The best temperature for them is around 26 °C. They don't like temperature below 17 °C and above 38 °C.

We can find coral reefs in more than 100 countries. The most important regions with coral reefs are Indonesia, Australia, Eastern Africa and Caribbean region in Central America. The largest coral reef is called the Great Barrier Reef. It is situated along the northeast coast of Australia. It is 2,600 kilometers long.



Coral reefs are very important because

- * they protect the coast from big waves
- * they are home for many other animals
- * they provide a job, food and medicine to 500 million people.

Pracovní list pro žákovské dvojice**CORAL REEFS****1) Mark the correct answers:**

a) Coral reefs are created by corals. Corals are:

- a. plants b. animals c. mushrooms

b) Thousands of corals usually live together:

- a. in a colony b. on an island c. on a rock

c) The house of corals is built from a stone called:

- a. carbon dioxide (oxid uhličitý) b. calcium carbonate (uhličitan vápenatý)
c. limestone (vápenec)

d) Corals usually live in:

- a. tropical seas b. subtropical seas c. tropical and subtropical seas

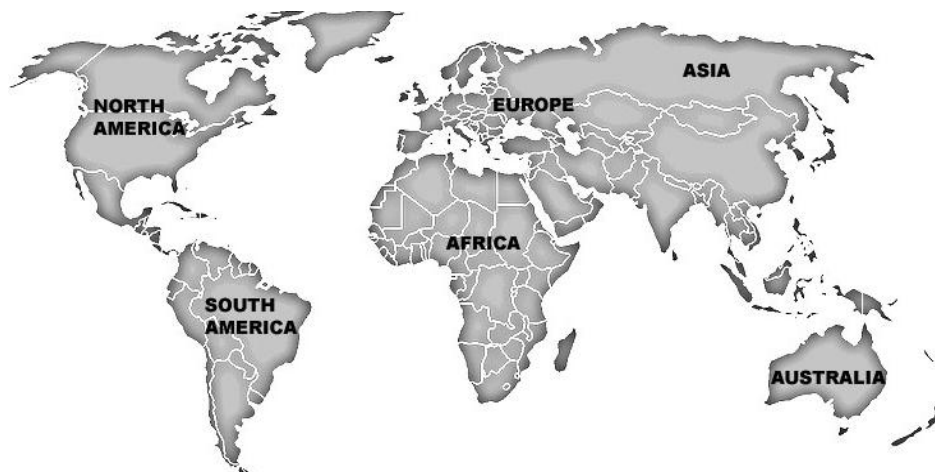
e) Corals usually like sea temperature of about:

- a. 15-20°C b. 25-27 °C c. above 33 °C

2) Take a red pencil and color the important areas with coral reefs.

Then take a blue pencil and color the place, where **the largest coral reef in the world** is.

Then take a black pencil and color **the nearest coral reef to the Czech Republic**.

**3. Read these sentences and write T (true) or F (false):**

- ... Corals like a deep water (deeper than 50 meters).
- ... Corals eat plankton.
- ... Coral reefs are one of the youngest ecosystems on the Earth.
- ... Coral reefs grow maximally 10 centimeters per year.
- ... 500 million people need coral reefs for their life.

4. Think! What can be the biggest danger for corals?

(Pollution? Global warming? Oil accident? Fishing?)

5. Write 5 English words from this worksheet that are very similar to Czech words:

6. Shrnující doplňovací text

Korálové útesy se vyskytují většinou v a mořích. Jedná se o kolonie mnoha milionů korálů postavené z uhličitanu Koráli jsou živočichové patřící do skupiny Koráli žijí v čistých mělkých mořích s teplotou okolo °C. Nejbližší země, kde můžeme korálové útesy při šnorchlování nebo potápění spatřit, je Korálové útesy jsou domovem a zdrojem potravy pro mnohé další živočichy, např. , a také jsou zdrojem obživy (potravy a zaměstnání) pro mnoho milionů lidí. Největšími nebezpečími pro korálové útesy jsou