



2.2 CORALS IN THEIR ENVIRONMENT

Almost all corals are **sedentary** animals, and unable to move around. They need to capture food from the surrounding waters, and rely on zooxanthellae to help them obtain food. If environmental conditions become unfavourable, the coral run the risk of losing their zooxanthellae and could die. There are many abiotic factors to which they have to be adapted to in order to survive. Humans have an added effect on their environment through **pollution, habitat destruction and global warming.**

Activity 3: Adapted to survive

Grade 10: LO3 – AS 2 Evaluate the impact of technology and human endeavors on the environment.

Grade 8: LO2 – AS1 Recall meaningful information on corals
AS3 Make predictions about the corals survival from their

What you need:



- The diagram of the coral polyp and coral colony
- The fact sheets
- Your work book or paper

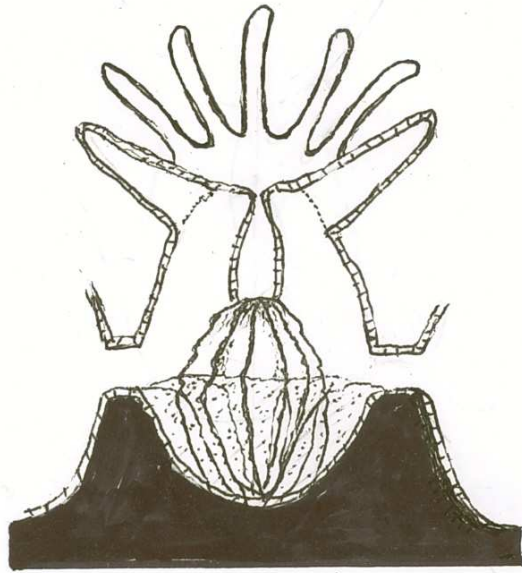
What to do:



- Examine the diagrams of the coral and the coral colony, and then try to infer how the corals survive.

1. What kinds of abiotic conditions affect the coral?
2. How is the body of the coral formed to adapt and cope with these conditions?
3. Explain how the following human influences affect corals: pollution, habitat destruction and global warming.
4. What 3 suggestions do you have that could reduce man's impact on corals?

A coral polyp



A coral colony

