

Hello Year 5 and welcome to English 3 - Australia and the Great Barrier Reef! Put the information in the boxes to create a poster to inform people about the Great Barrier Reef (see examples on next slide).



215 species of birds (including 22 species of seabirds and 32 species of shorebirds) visit the reef or nest or roost on the islands.

The Great Barrier Reef The Great Barrier Reef: Is the world's largest reef system.

There are seventeen species of sea snake.

Has thirty species of whales, dolphins, and porpoises and six species of sea turtles come to the reef to breed.

It is composed of over 2,900 individual reefs.

There are some threats toward the Great Barrier Reef, and climate change is perhaps the biggest threat.

There are more than 1,500 fish species. There's around 10 percent of the world's total fish species.

The Great Barrier Reef is an extremely ancient, enormous host of living things, composed of living coral growing on dead coral dating back perhaps as much as twenty million years.

Has over 900 islands stretching for over 2,600 kilometres and can be seen from outer space!

May's 2016 KS2/PS-7 learning resources
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WALK TO SCHOOL WITH LIVING STREETS

THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

The Great Barrier Reef is the biggest coral reef system in the world and can be found off the coast of Queensland, Australia. The reef is a massive structure made from living organisms and supports a whole range of species. Unfortunately climate change is a major threat to its future because of changes in water temperature and rising sea levels.

Did you know?

- 1 The Great Barrier Reef is so big that it can be seen from space – it's bigger than the whole of Italy.
- 2 It consists of nearly 3,000 individual reefs and 900 islands.
- 3 The Great Barrier Reef is home to around 1,500 species of fish, the smallest is just 7mm long
- 4 Heard of the box jellyfish or stone fish? They're some of the most lethal animals around and they can be found at the Great Barrier Reef. The reef attracts around two million visits each year – some say it's even one of the seven natural wonders of the world.

Reef Beat

Our Great Barrier Reef

We really need to keep it great

...many of us like to go to the beach in the summer. It's a great time to relax and enjoy the sun. But did you know that the Great Barrier Reef is in danger? It's the world's largest natural barrier reef and it's home to a huge variety of marine life. Unfortunately, it's in danger because of climate change and rising sea levels. This means that the water is getting warmer and the sea level is rising. This is bad for the reef because it's made of coral and other living things. They can't survive in warmer water and the sea level rising means that the reef is being covered by water. This is a big problem and we need to do something to help the reef. We can do this by reducing our carbon footprint and using less energy. We can also help by not using too much plastic and recycling. If we all do our bit, we can help to keep the Great Barrier Reef healthy and beautiful for many years to come.

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FROM TOP: Duggies are in trouble on the Great Barrier Reef. There are 1500 species of fish on the reef. Australia.

THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

What

The Great Barrier Reef is the world's largest coral reef.

History

For many thousands of years, Aboriginal people travelled to the islands and outer reefs of the Great Barrier Reef in large canoes to fish and hunt. Important cultural sites still exist on many of these islands.

When

The Great Barrier Reef is about 500 000 years old. Its current formation is approximately 8000 years old.

Where

The Great Barrier Reef runs along the coast of Queensland. It is 2600 kilometres in length and covers an area of over 300 000 square kilometres.

WA NT QLD SA VIC ACT TAS

Great Barrier Reef is a living structure. It can be seen from space.