

Coral Reef Crossword Puzzle

Across:

1. An echinoderm that has an elongated body shape, reduced spines and feeds on bottom sediments.
2. Marine turtles eat this plant that grows in shallow water and is often damaged by boat propellers.
3. A fish that resembles a snake, has long, pointed teeth and inhabits crevices at the reef.
4. A snail that grows is protected from harvest, grows a pink shell and feeds in the grass-beds.
5. A cartilaginous fish that has a long tail with a movable spine and burrows itself into the sand.
6. An entire colony of coral is actually many individual _____s living together.
7. This commercially important crustacean does not have claws like its northern cousin.
8. A one-celled algae that lives inside coral polyps and helps the coral obtain nutrition.
9. This fish, a blue _____, is a member of the doctorfish family and is often found in schools at the reef.
10. Members of this family of brightly colored fish are often seen during the day at the reef feeding on sponges. (**Hint:** Queen, Blue, Gray).
11. This common soft coral has a mesh-like body and is purple in color. Flamingo tongue snails like to feed on its polyps.
12. A hollow-bodied invertebrate with stinging tentacles surrounding its mouth; found living on the bottom or attached to rocks; usually solitary, not colonial.
13. A primitive animal that constantly filters the seawater to obtain the oxygen and food it needs to survive. (**Hint:** many tiny "pores", Phylum Porifera).
14. A sunken boat; may have historic value.
15. A cartilaginous fish which has many rows of razor-sharp teeth.
16. This mammal is also known as a sea cow and is the name of a type of seagrass.
17. A fish that is long, silver, has lots of sharp teeth, and is found near the reef.
18. A fish that likes to live in crevasses at the reef and has a large mouth for gulping its prey; (**Hint:** Nassau, Black, Goliath).
19. A simple invertebrate that has stinging tentacles and is found floating in the ocean currents. (**Hint:** medusa stage).

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Down:

1. A commercially important crustacean with a bluish colored exoskeleton and a pair of claws.
2. A soft bodied animal with a body called a foot; usually grows a shell for protection.
3. This kind of stony coral grows in a pattern that resembles human gray matter.
4. This southern state is a peninsula that was first discovered by Ponce de Leon in the 1500's.
- 4a. The waters of the Florida Keys have been designated as a National _____.
5. The test ("shell") of this group of echinoderms is covered in tiny bumps which are the points of attachment for its many spines.
6. A marine mammal that travels in pods and often jumps playfully out of the water.
7. This fish family contains species that are important food and gamefish. (Hint: Mangrove, Yellowtail, Mutton).
8. This coastal bird dives head first into the water to capture fish in its pouch-like beak.
9. This mollusk has eight tentacles with suction cups and squirts ink when disturbed.
10. A primitive group of aquatic plants that do not have true roots, stems, or leaves.
11. This crustacean is harvested off the Dry Tortugas and parts of the Gulf using trawling nets.
12. This shelled marine reptile comes ashore on sandy beaches to dig a nest in the sand and lay its eggs.
13. These are affected by surface winds and form at the shoreline. (Hint: crest, trough).
14. People who use Self Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus.
15. A family of colorful reef fishes that have beak-shaped mouths and feed on the algae growing on the corals.
16. A tree with prop roots that is adapted for living in salt water along quiet coastlines.
17. This is a name for a small vessel.
18. This invertebrate is usually composed of many tiny polyps that are connected to one another and share food.
19. This term refers to a ridge of sand, rocks, or coral that grows near the water's surface. Coral _____s are found in the Florida Keys.



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Key Words



Barracuda

Grouper

Seafan

Dolphin

Scuba diver

Jellyfish

Boat

Zooxanthellae

Conch

Sea cucumber

Brain coral

Coral

Polyp

tang

Shark

Manatee

Sponge

Mangrove

Shipwreck

Shrimp

Urchin

Waves

Snapper

Turtlegrass

Moray eel

Octopus

Angel(fish)

Pelican

Reef

Coral crab

Stingray

Spiny Lobster

Algae

Sea anemone

Coral Reef Crossword Puzzle Key

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