

Name: _____

Date: _____

Life Science

Period: _____



Coral Reefs: The Changing of the Guard

By Jim Borg
Odyssey Magazine

Read the article “Coral Reefs: The Changing of the Guard” and answer the following questions in complete sentences. You will be graded according to the previously distributed rubric.

1. Why are tropical waters so clear?

2. In which kingdom are coral classified?

3. How is the diet of the coral different during the day than at night?

4. How are nocturnal fish in the coral reef adapted to being active at night?

5. Identify three ways that fish that are active in the reef during the daytime protect themselves from predators as dusk approaches.

6. What theory do scientists propose explains why certain fish, like scads, are active in the coral reef at night?

7. Imagine that you have taken a family trip to Honolua Bay in Hawaii. The highlight of your vacation is a snorkeling trip into a coral reef. As your snorkeling guide prepares you and your family for the excursion, he informs you that, under no circumstances, may you touch anything in the coral reef. The coral reef, he explains, is a protected natural environment. Your younger brother doesn't understand why and you fear that he may break the rule that was given by the instructor. In a minimum of four complete sentences in a cohesive paragraph, explain how you would inform your brother of the importance of leaving the coral in the reef undisturbed.
