

# National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS), National Geography Standards (NGS), Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

Subjects: Science, Social Studies

Grades: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

## Virtual Field Trips

### How Coral Reefs Are Formed

#### National Geography Standards (NGS)

##### Science

#### Grade 2 - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.4.	The physical and human characteristics of places
STRAND	PR.4.2.	The Characteristics of Places: Places have physical and human characteristics
BENCHMARK	PR.4.2.A.	Describe and compare the physical characteristics of places at a variety of scales, local to global, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.4.2.A.3.	Describe and compare the physical environments and landforms of different places in the world (e.g., mountains, islands, valleys or canyons, mesas).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.1.	Components of Earth's Physical Systems: There are four components of Earth's physical systems (the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere)
BENCHMARK	PS.7.1.A.	Identify attributes of Earth's different physical systems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.7.1.A.3.	Identify examples of landforms on Earth's surface (e.g., mountains, volcanoes, valleys, plains).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.3.	Physical Processes: Physical processes shape features on Earth's surface
BENCHMARK	PS.7.3.B.	Describe how physical processes shape features on Earth's surface, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.7.3.B.2.	Describe the physical processes that shaped particular landform features using pictures of landforms such as canyons, mesas, and deltas.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface

STRAND	PS.8.1.	Components of Ecosystems: The components of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.1.A.	Identify the components of different ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.1.A.3.	Describe local ecosystems by surveying and recording the properties of their components.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.2.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Ecosystems: The characteristics of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.2.A.	Identify and describe the characteristics of ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.1.	Identify and describe the characteristics of an ecosystem (specific types of plants, climate, and soil) in which a favorite or interesting creature lives.
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.2.	Identify and draw pictures of different plants and animals in various local ecosystems (e.g., a pond, forest, city park).
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.3.	Compare the characteristics of different ecosystems (e.g., pond, deciduous forest, coral reef).

### National Geography Standards (NGS)

#### Science

#### **Grade 3** - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.4.	The physical and human characteristics of places
STRAND	PR.4.2.	The Characteristics of Places: Places have physical and human characteristics
BENCHMARK	PR.4.2.A.	Describe and compare the physical characteristics of places at a variety of scales, local to global, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.4.2.A.3.	Describe and compare the physical environments and landforms of different places in the world (e.g., mountains, islands, valleys or canyons, mesas).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.1.	Components of Earth's Physical Systems: There are four components of Earth's physical systems (the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere)
BENCHMARK	PS.7.1.A.	Identify attributes of Earth's different physical systems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.7.1.A.3.	Identify examples of landforms on Earth's surface (e.g., mountains, volcanoes, valleys, plains).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.3.	Physical Processes: Physical processes shape features on Earth's surface
BENCHMARK	PS.7.3.B.	Describe how physical processes shape features on Earth's surface, as

		exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.7.3.B.2.	Describe the physical processes that shaped particular landform features using pictures of landforms such as canyons, mesas, and deltas.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.1.	Components of Ecosystems: The components of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.1.A.	Identify the components of different ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.1.A.3.	Describe local ecosystems by surveying and recording the properties of their components.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.2.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Ecosystems: The characteristics of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.2.A.	Identify and describe the characteristics of ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.1.	Identify and describe the characteristics of an ecosystem (specific types of plants, climate, and soil) in which a favorite or interesting creature lives.
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.2.	Identify and draw pictures of different plants and animals in various local ecosystems (e.g., a pond, forest, city park). Compare the characteristics of different ecosystems (e.g., pond, deciduous forest, coral reef).
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.3.	

## National Geography Standards (NGS)

### Science

#### **Grade 4** - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.4.	The physical and human characteristics of places
STRAND	PR.4.2.	The Characteristics of Places: Places have physical and human characteristics
BENCHMARK	PR.4.2.A.	Describe and compare the physical characteristics of places at a variety of scales, local to global, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.4.2.A.3.	Describe and compare the physical environments and landforms of different places in the world (e.g., mountains, islands, valleys or canyons, mesas).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface

STRAND	PS.7.1.	Components of Earth's Physical Systems: There are four components of Earth's physical systems (the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere)
BENCHMARK	PS.7.1.A.	Identify attributes of Earth's different physical systems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.7.1.A.3.	Identify examples of landforms on Earth's surface (e.g., mountains, volcanoes, valleys, plains).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.3.	Physical Processes: Physical processes shape features on Earth's surface
BENCHMARK	PS.7.3.B.	Describe how physical processes shape features on Earth's surface, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.7.3.B.2.	Describe the physical processes that shaped particular landform features using pictures of landforms such as canyons, mesas, and deltas.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.1.	Components of Ecosystems: The components of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.1.A.	Identify the components of different ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.1.A.3.	Describe local ecosystems by surveying and recording the properties of their components.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.2.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Ecosystems: The characteristics of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.2.A.	Identify and describe the characteristics of ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.1.	Identify and describe the characteristics of an ecosystem (specific types of plants, climate, and soil) in which a favorite or interesting creature lives.
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.2.	Identify and draw pictures of different plants and animals in various local ecosystems (e.g., a pond, forest, city park).
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.3.	Compare the characteristics of different ecosystems (e.g., pond, deciduous forest, coral reef).

### National Geography Standards (NGS)

#### Science

#### **Grade 5** - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.1.	Components of Ecosystems: Components of ecosystems are interdependent

BENCHMARK	PS.8.1.A.	Describe how the components of ecosystems are connected and contribute to the energy of their own cycles, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.1.A.3.	Identify and describe the variable components in an ocean ecosystem that influence the interdependencies in an ecosystem (e.g., water temperature, depth, salinity, acidity, plants, fish, and marine mammals in an aquatic ecosystem).

### National Geography Standards (NGS)

#### Science

#### Grade 6 - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.1.	Components of Ecosystems: Components of ecosystems are interdependent
BENCHMARK	PS.8.1.A.	Describe how the components of ecosystems are connected and contribute to the energy of their own cycles, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.1.A.3.	Identify and describe the variable components in an ocean ecosystem that influence the interdependencies in an ecosystem (e.g., water temperature, depth, salinity, acidity, plants, fish, and marine mammals in an aquatic ecosystem).

### Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

#### Science

#### Grade 2 - Adopted: 2013

STRAND	NGSS.2-LS.	LIFE SCIENCE
TITLE	2-LS4.	Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity Students who demonstrate understanding can:
PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	2-LS4-1.	Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats.
STRAND	NGSS.2-ESS.	EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE
TITLE	2-ESS2.	Earth's Systems Students who demonstrate understanding can:
PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	2-ESS2-2.	Develop a model to represent the shapes and kinds of land and bodies of water in an area.

### Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

#### Science

#### Grade 3 - Adopted: 2013

STRAND	NGSS.3-LS.	LIFE SCIENCE
TITLE	3-LS1.	From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes Students who demonstrate understanding can:

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	3-LS1-1.	Develop models to describe that organisms have unique and diverse life cycles but all have in common birth, growth, reproduction, and death.
STRAND	NGSS.3-LS.	LIFE SCIENCE
TITLE	3-LS2.	Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics Students who demonstrate understanding can:
PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	3-LS2-1.	Construct an argument that some animals form groups that help members survive.
STRAND	NGSS.3-LS.	LIFE SCIENCE
TITLE	3-LS4.	Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity Students who demonstrate understanding can:
PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	3-LS4-2.	Use evidence to construct an explanation for how the variations in characteristics among individuals of the same species may provide advantages in surviving, finding mates, and reproducing.

### Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

#### Science

#### Grade 4 - Adopted: 2013

STRAND	NGSS.4-LS.	LIFE SCIENCE
TITLE	4-LS1.	From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes Students who demonstrate understanding can:
PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	4-LS1-1.	Construct an argument that plants and animals have internal and external structures that function to support survival, growth, behavior, and reproduction.

### Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

#### Science

#### Grade 6 - Adopted: 2013

STRAND	NGSS.MS-LS.	LIFE SCIENCE
TITLE	MS-LS1.	From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes Students who demonstrate understanding can:
PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	MS-LS1-4.	Use argument based on empirical evidence and scientific reasoning to support an explanation for how characteristic animal behaviors and specialized plant structures affect the probability of successful reproduction of animals and plants respectively.
PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	MS-LS1-5.	Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence for how environmental and genetic factors influence the growth of organisms.
STRAND	NGSS.MS-LS.	LIFE SCIENCE
TITLE	MS-LS2.	Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics Students who demonstrate understanding can:

PERFORMANCE  
EXPECTATION MS-LS2-2. Construct an explanation that predicts patterns of interactions among organisms across multiple ecosystems.

PERFORMANCE  
EXPECTATION MS-LS2-4. Construct an argument supported by empirical evidence that changes to physical or biological components of an ecosystem affect populations.

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