



## Researcher Learning Activities

Investigate the coral reefs of Belize in more depth

### 14. What is the Impact of these Threats (part 1)?

*Requirements: access to the internet*

*Research team: individually, as a team of 3-5 researchers, or as a class*

*Curriculum: Science*

*Time: 20 minutes*

There are three main ways that climate change and rising sea temperatures cause damage to coral reef environments.

- Increased acidification of the ocean affects the ability of ocean species to make tough protective shells.
- Increased temperatures cause coral bleaching.
- Increased number of hurricanes and powerful storms physically breaks the coral.

Watch the 'ocean acidification' and 'coral bleaching' videos on the [\*\*Fragments of Hope website\*\*](#) and look at the sheet on this site which identifies if coral bleaching has taken place.