



Corals and the Coral Reef: Science and Conservation ERM Grades 3-6

Date completed: February 2007

Overview

CBRI designed a series of data rich maps for the Education Department at the California Academy of Sciences to accompany their Educator Resource Materials (ERMs). Educator Resource Materials (ERMs) are kits on life science themes available for use in the classroom. These kits are filled with specimens, books, videos and other materials selected for student interest.

Activity Objective: Students, grades 3-6 will learn where coral reefs naturally exist and the environmental factors that are necessary for coral reef growth.

Materials:

For teacher: color transparencies with maps of the world showing (1) latitude lines, (2) cold ocean currents, (3) ocean depths, (4) major rivers, and (5) world distribution of coral reefs

For students: map of the world worksheet with latitude markers

Maps on following pages

All maps © California Academy of Sciences, 2007

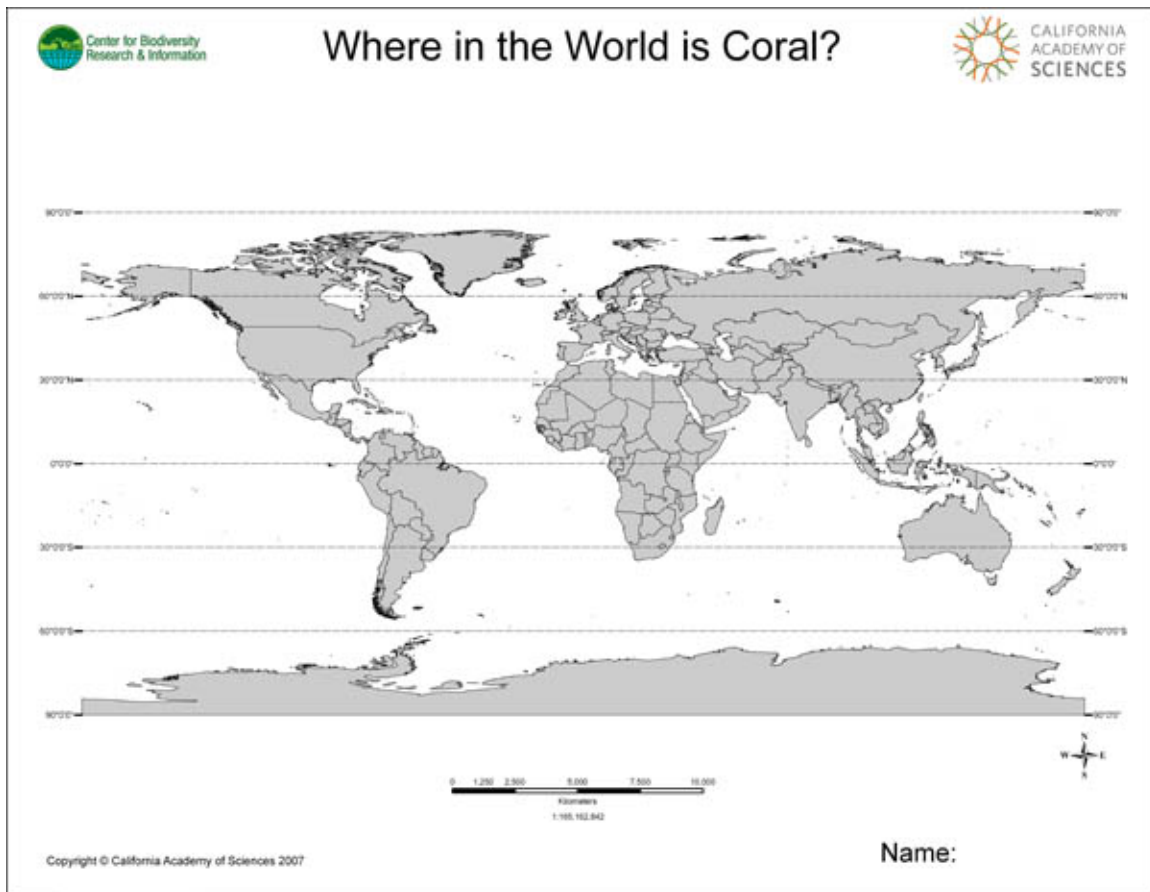
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Student Worksheet

Teacher will pass out map worksheets and colored pencils/crayons to students and will use information in the background information section to teach this activity.



Where in the World is Coral?

Center for Biodiversity Research & Information

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

60°00'N
30°00'N
0°00'
30°00'S
60°00'S

0 1,200 2,400 3,600 4,800 Kilometers
1:100,000,000

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Name: _____

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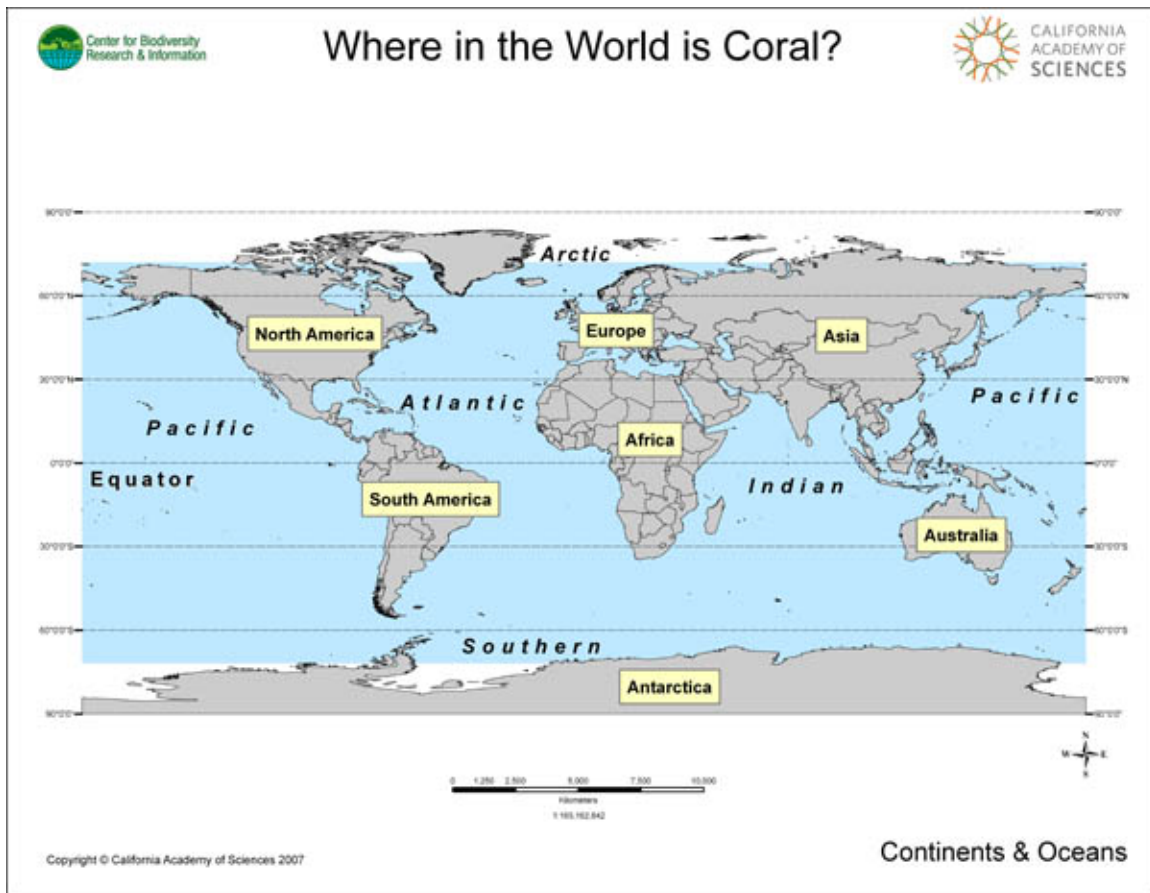
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Transparency #1: Teacher's Reference

Major oceans, land masses, equator, and 30°N, and 30°S latitude lines labeled.

- Students will first label major land masses and oceans.
- Students will draw in equator, 30°N, and 30°S latitude lines, then color the entire areas above and below 30°N and 30°S latitudes because coral reefs cannot grow there.



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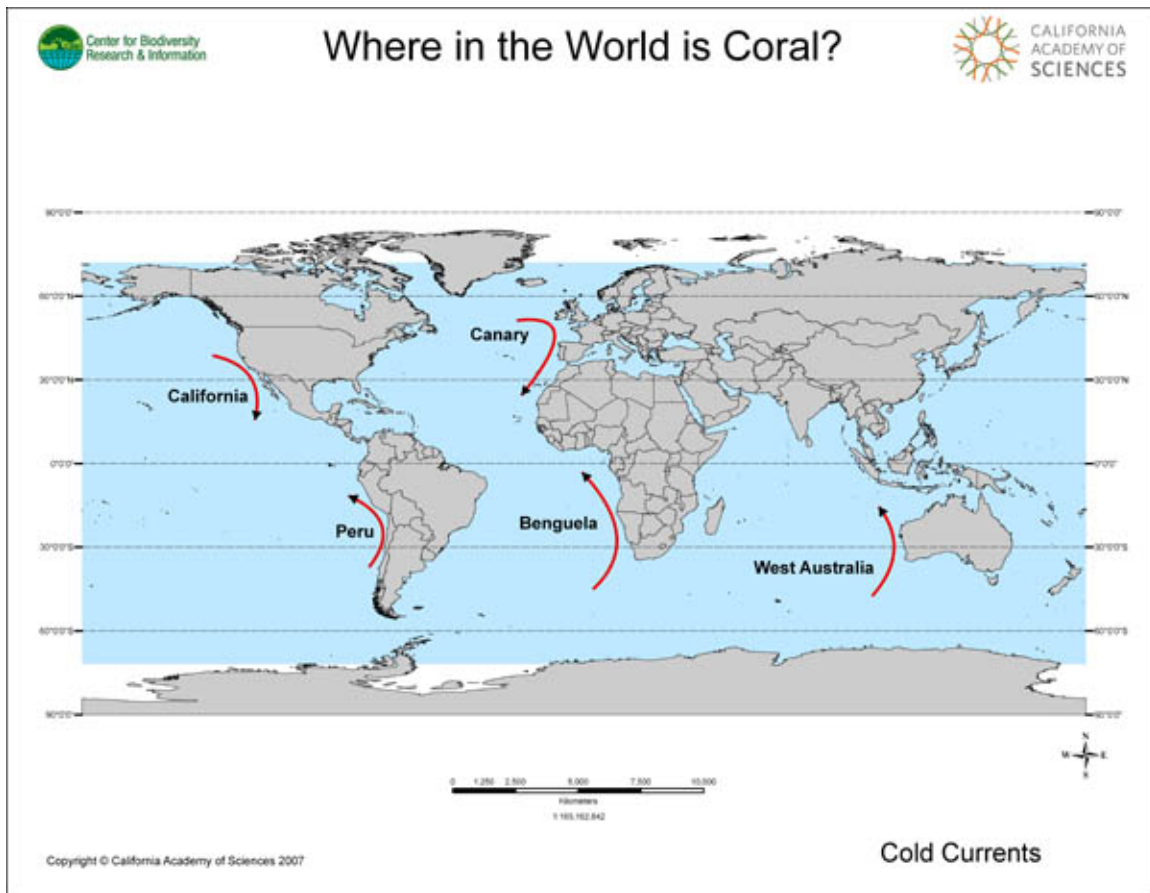
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Transparency #2: Cold Currents

Teacher will show map transparency #2 with major cold currents located between 30°N and 30°S latitudes.

- Students will color in major cold currents on their maps. (Older students can name these currents as well).



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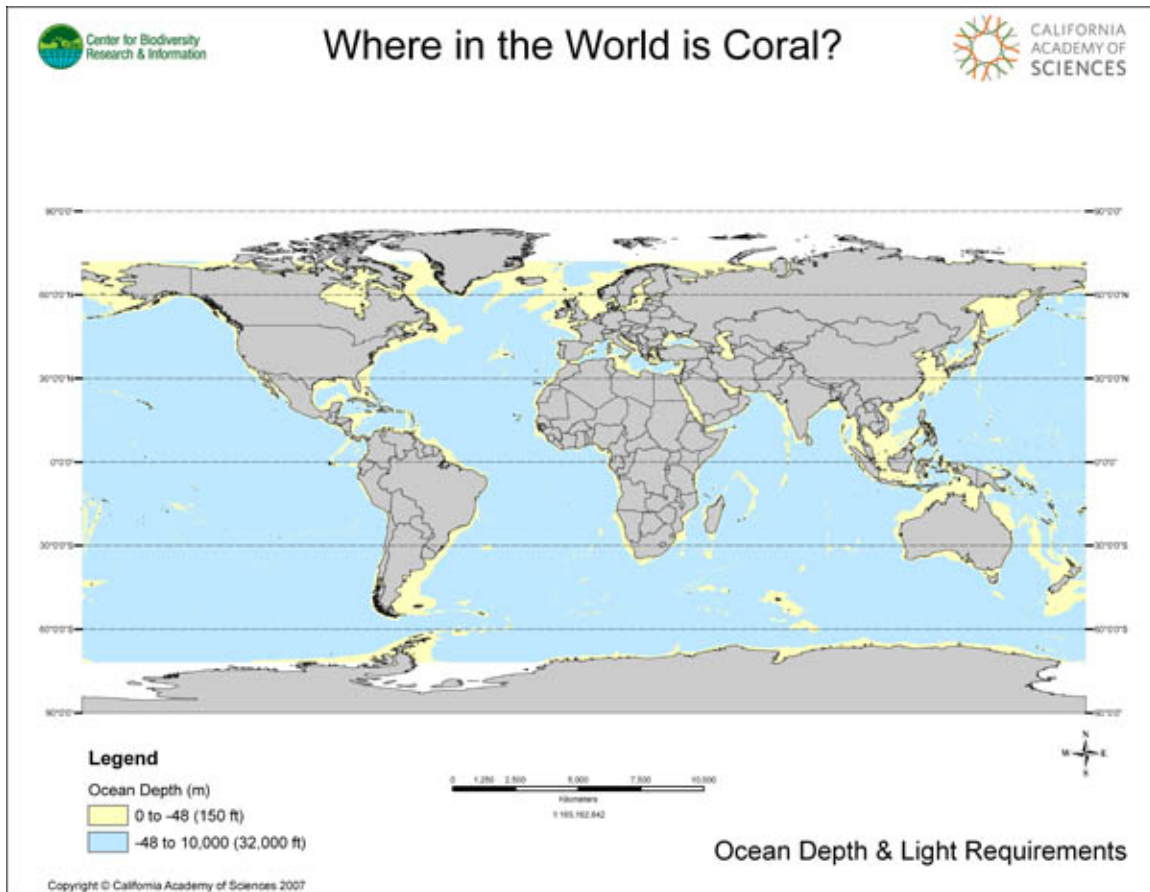
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Transparency #3: Ocean Depths

Teacher will show map transparency #3 that indicates ocean depths between 30°N and 30°S latitudes where corals reefs can grow and areas that are too deep.

- Students will color in deep ocean regions on their maps.



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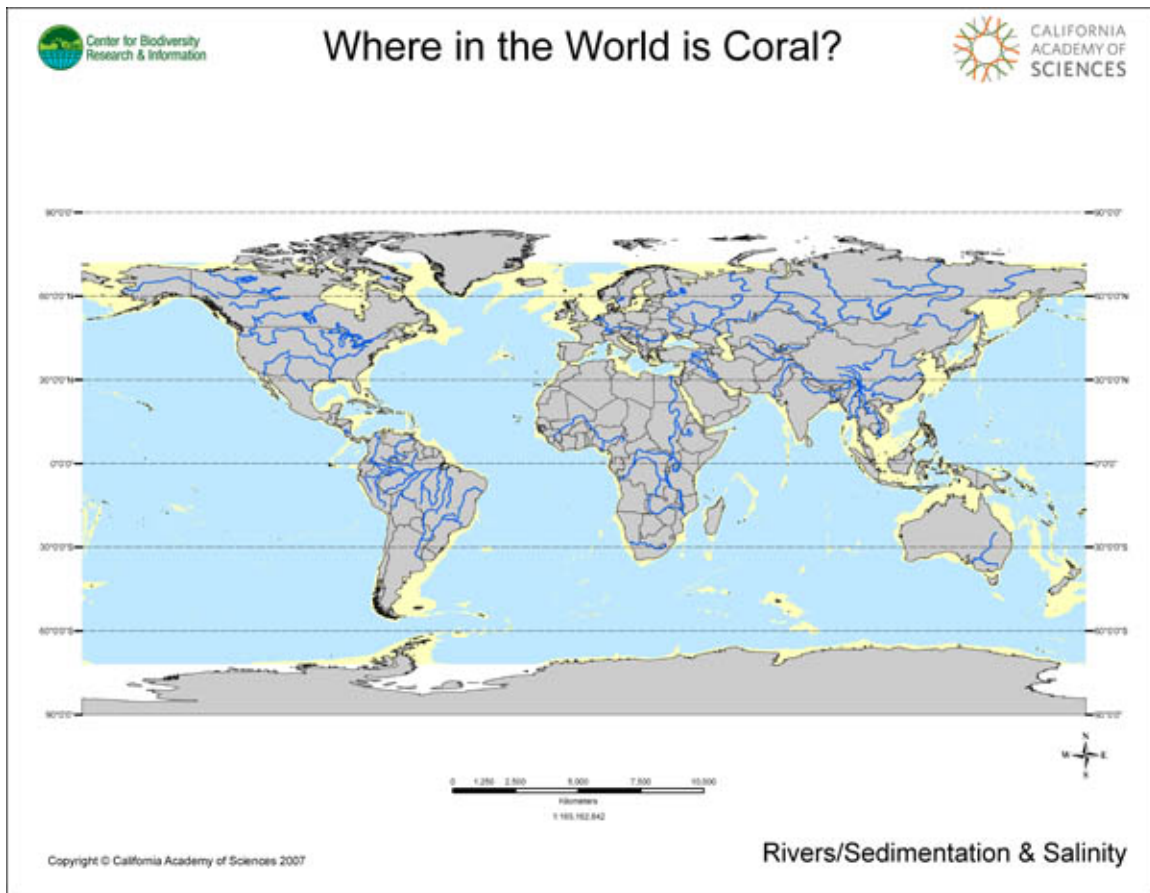
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Transparency #4: Rivers & Salinity

Teacher will show map transparency #4 with major rivers of the world located between 30°N and 30°S latitudes.

- Students will locate the river mouths by circling them on their maps and color in the circles.



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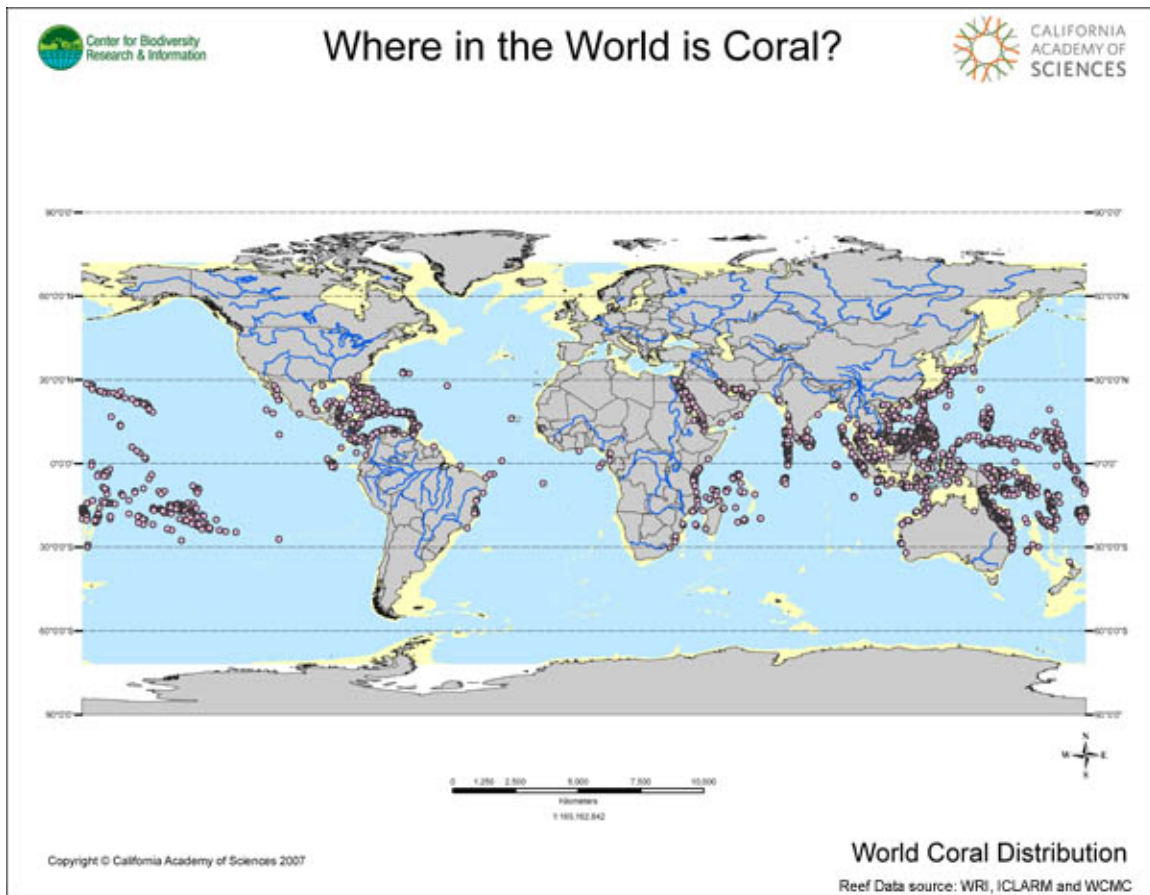
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Transparency #5: Global Distribution of Tropical Coral Reefs

Teacher will show map transparency #5 with worldwide locations of coral reefs.

- Students will compare the remaining uncolored ocean areas of their maps to this transparency and locate actual coral reef distribution with a different color on their worksheet.



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