

Coral Reefs:

Question: Do you know what coral bleaching is?

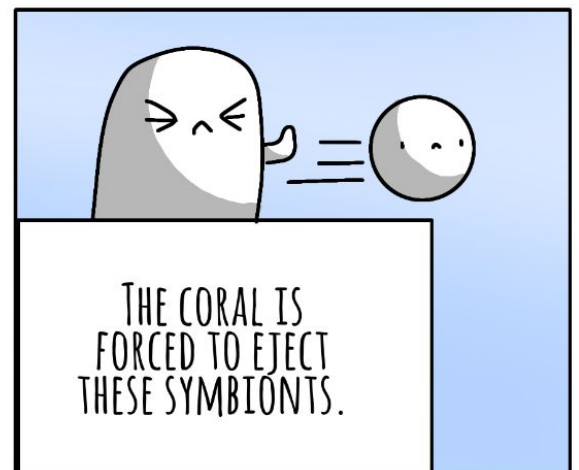
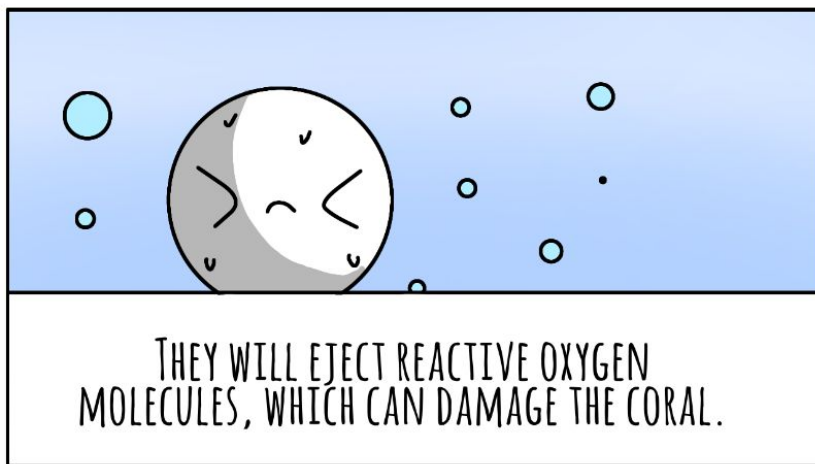
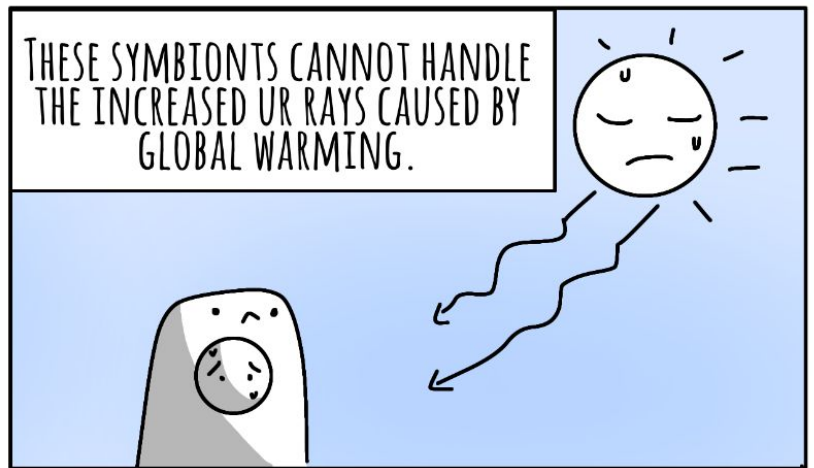
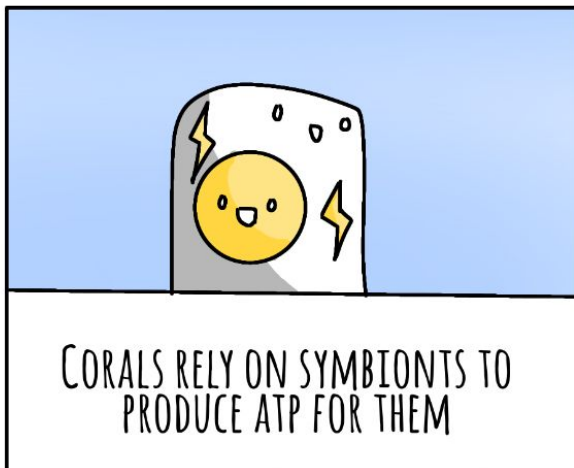
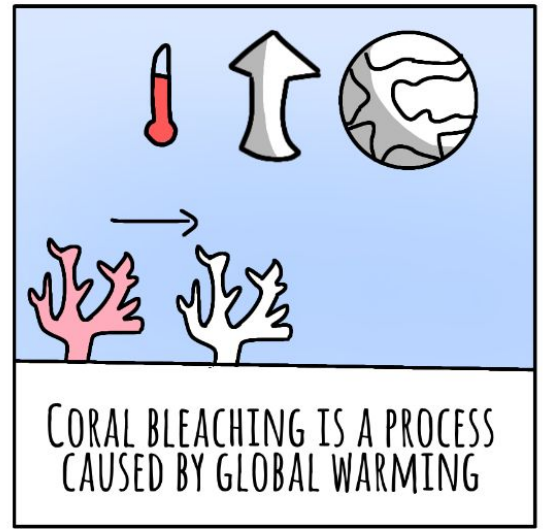
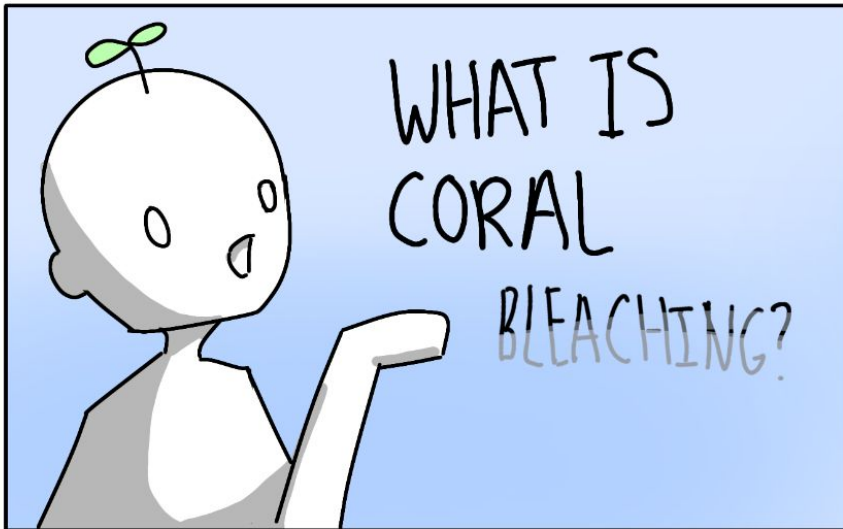


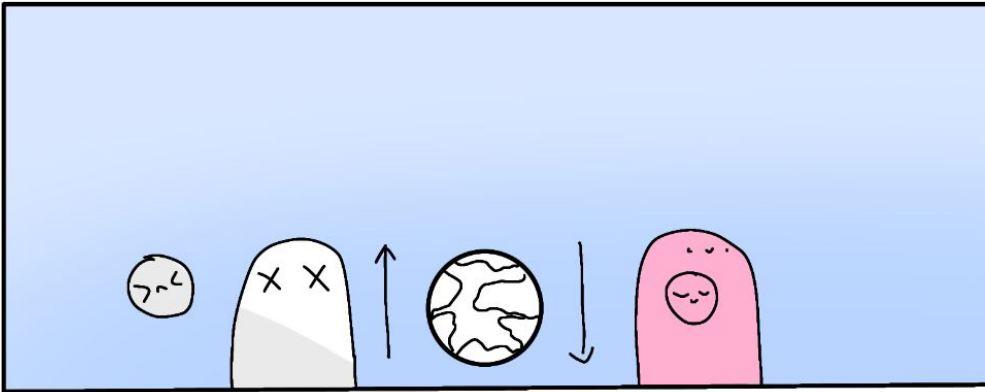
This is a coral reef! It is home to many different species! See if you can find at least 10 species in this picture!

Sketch the species that is your favorite:

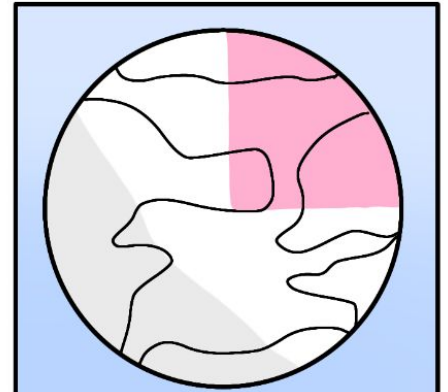
ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS: BLEACHING

CAUSE: GLOBAL WARMING

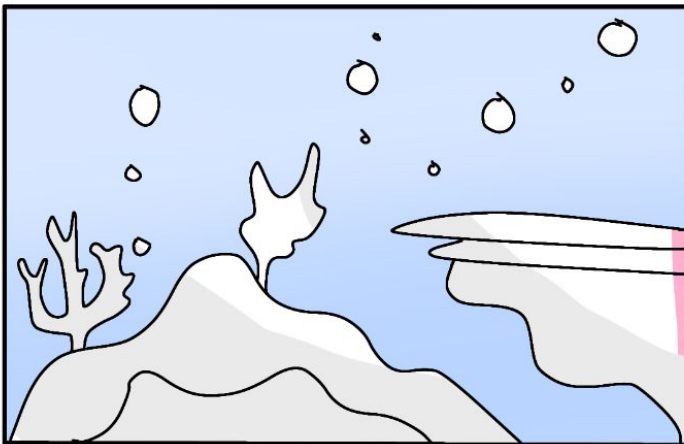




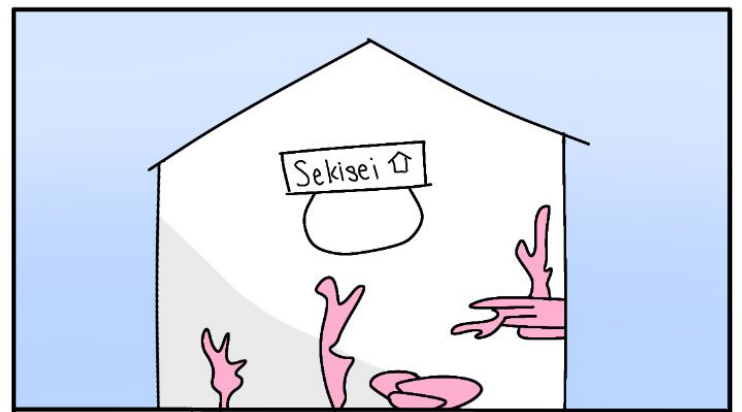
UNLESS THE TEMPERATURE QUICKLY REDUCES TO A SAFE AMOUNT, AND THE SYMBIONT RETURNS, THE CORAL CANNOT SURVIVE.



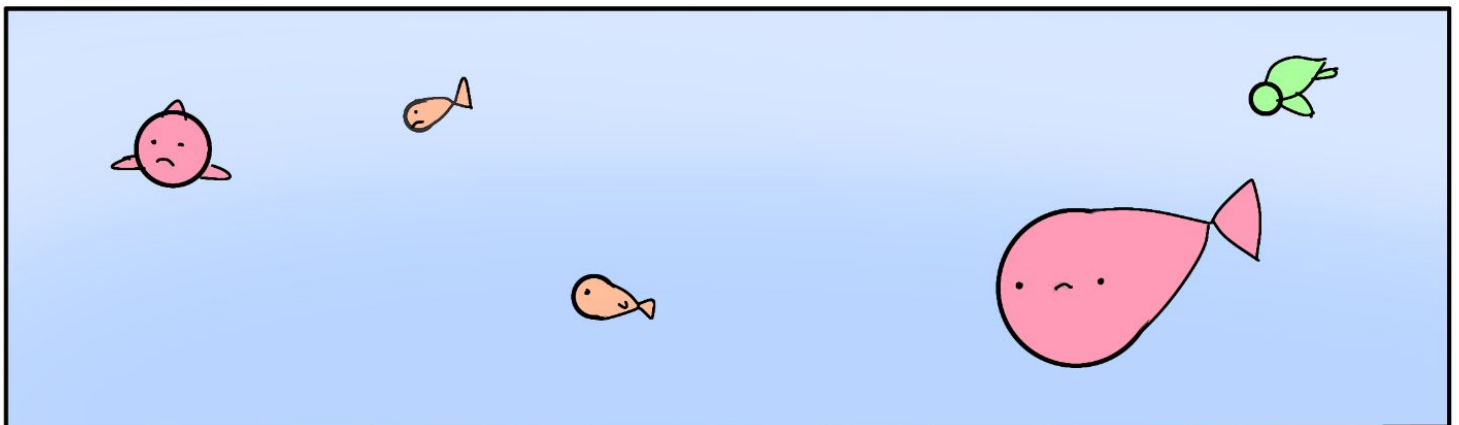
AROUND 75% OF THE WORLD'S CORAL REEFS HAVE BEEN BLEACHED.



ONLY 1.4% OF SEMI SEMI LAGOON, JAPAN'S LARGEST CORAL REEF, IS CONSIDERED HEALTHY.



THE LAGOON HOSTS OVER 400 TYPES OF CORALS, 38 OF WHICH ARE ONLY KNOWN FROM THE REEF.



IF THE REEF DIES, THOUSANDS UPON THOUSAND OF ORGANISMS WILL LOSE THEIR HOMES.

Steps you can take against Coral Bleaching:

- 1) **Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle.** You've heard it once, now you'll hear it again. Believe it or not, recycling can help the environment by reducing trash in our oceans, reducing the amount of plastic manufactured, and products made from recycling can be just as good as products that are not! (Believe it or not there's actually 10 R's you should check them out)
- 2) **Turn off your lights when you leave the room, turn off the tap when you are brushing your teeth, washing your face, basically, whenever you don't need it.**
- 3) **Bike or use public transportation.** Limit the amount of greenhouse gases you are putting into the atmosphere. (However, if you are using public transport, please do it safely! Make sure to wear masks and social distance!)
- 4) **Try and use reusable products whenever you can, and if you need to use consumable ones, make sure you grab the compostable versions, not their environmental-harming counterparts.**
- 5) **Spread the word!** Coral bleaching is a phenomenon that not much of the world is aware of. Each coral reef hosts thousands of species! For every person who joins the fight against global warming and coral bleaching another coral saved and another fish that gets to keep its home.