



## NATURAL MARVELS

# Treasures of the Oceans

Why is the Great Barrier Reef considered one of the “seven Natural Wonders of the World”? What are atolls and how are they formed? Read *Treasures of the Ocean* to find out!

### What did you learn?

#### QUESTIONS

1. The Great Barrier Reef has ...
  - a. 4,000 individual reefs
  - b. 3,000 individual reefs
  - c. 2,700 individual reefs
  - d. 3,200 individual reefs
2. Corals grow in ...
  - a. Fresh water
  - b. Cold water
  - c. Colonies
  - d. Pairs
3. The atolls of the Maldives is ...
  - a. A chain of 1,200 tiny islands
  - b. A chain of 3,200 tiny islands
  - c. A chain of 5,200 tiny islands
  - d. A chain of 10,200 tiny islands
4. The Mid-Atlantic Ridge rises ...
  - a. 5,000 feet
  - b. 7,000 feet
  - c. 9,000 feet
  - d. 10,000 feet
5. What are *algae*?
6. What are *zooxanthellae*?

#### TRUE OR FALSE?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| _____ 1. The Great Barrier Reef is one of the “seven natural wonders.” | _____ 4. Corals are not ocean animals.   |
| _____ 2. Global warming is the biggest threat to the reef.             | _____ 5. The Mid-Atlantic Ridge is a gigantic mountain range that lies underwater. |
| _____ 3. The Maldives’ volcanic mountains lie mostly underwater.       | _____ 6. Atlantis is a part of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge.                             |



## ANSWERS

- 1. b. 3,000 individual reefs.** According to section "Where Is the Great Barrier Reef and What's Special About It?" on page 8, we know that "It is made of about 3,000 individual reefs." So, the correct answer is B.
- 2. c. Colonies.** According to section "What Creature Built the Great Barrier Reef?" on page 10, we know that "Another coral secret: they work together. Corals grow in colonies." So, the correct answer is C.
- 3. a. A chain of 1,200 tiny islands.** According to section "Where Are the Atolls of the Maldives and What's Special About Them?" on page 22, we know that "It is a chain of about 1,200 tiny islands, 475 miles (74 kilometers) long ... " So, the correct answer is A.
- 4. d. 10,000 feet.** According to section "Mountains in the Dark" on page 32, we know that "Most of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge rises no more than 10,000 (3,000 meters) above the surrounding abyssal plains." So, the correct answer is D.
- 5.** According to page 38, *algae* are "a group of simple plantlike organisms that can make their own food."
- 6.** According to page 38, *zooxanthellae* are "algae that live inside the bodies of corals."

## TRUE OR FALSE? ANSWERS

- 1. True.** According to section "The Secret of Symbiosis" on page 13, we know that "Of the 'seven natural wonders,' the Great Barrier Reef is one of only two that lie in the ocean." So, the correct answer is True.
- 2. True.** According to section "The Great Barrier Reef and People" on page 18, we know that "Global warming, the observed rise in Earth's average surface temperature, may be the biggest threat to the reef." So, the correct answer is True.
- 3. False.** According to section "A Sinking Feeling" on page 26, we know that "The Maldives' mountaintops are completely beneath the sea ... " So, the correct answer is False.
- 4. False.** According to section "What Creature Built the Great Barrier Reef?" on page 10, we know that "Corals are ocean animals related to jellyfish and sea anemones." So, the correct answer is False.
- 5. True.** According to section "Where Is the Mid-Atlantic Ridge and What's Special About It?" on page 30, we know that "The Mid-Atlantic Ridge is a gigantic mountain range that lies almost completely underwater." So, the correct answer is True.
- 6. False.** According to section "The Lost City" on page 34, we know that "But they did not find the remnants of a human civilization on top of it. Instead, in 2000, they found something much stranger: a place they called the 'Lost City.'" So, the correct answer is False.