



What gets wet while drying?

A towel

Fun Facts

- The farthest point on earth from civilization is a point in the sea called Point Nemo
- All penguins live in the southern Hemisphere, even the Galapago penguins
- There is an animal that can survive in the most extreme places, even space! It's called the Tardigrade.

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The Beauty of Coral Reefs

Coral reefs are fascinating ecosystems. Some support more than 7,000 species of fish, plants, turtles, birds, and mammals. About 25% of the whole ocean's fish rely on coral reefs. Coral reefs allow animals to find food, find shelter, and birth and take care of their young. Without coral reefs, many species would die out.

There are two different kinds of coral. Shallow water reefs, and deep water coral. Shallow water coral is what makes up coral reefs. They rely on a photosynthetic algae called zooxanthellae. The algae produces carbohydrates that coral uses as food and oxygen. The algae also helps the coral remove waste. In return, the coral provides shelter. This is called mutualism, a type of symbiosis. Deep water coral, on the other hand, lives in very deep and cold water, where there is no zooxanthellae. Instead, deep water coral gets its food from plankton and organic matter.

Coral reefs benefit many animals, but did you know that coral benefits us too? Coral reefs provide barriers against storms and erosion. They're also a source of food and medicine, since so much fish and ocean wildlife live there. Over half a billion people rely on coral reefs for food, money, or shelter against storms. Coral reefs also provide tourism activities like fishing, diving, and snorkeling, which brings in hundreds of millions of dollars. Altogether the money coral reefs make is around tens of billions of U.S dollars per year. These ecosystems are important to indigenous people all over the world.

Sadly, coral reefs are in great danger. There are diseases, predators, and storms that kill coral reefs. But a lot of the damage on the coral comes from people. Things like pollution, excessive fishing, sedimentation, and global warming are causing more and more coral reefs to die, which puts so many other species of underwater animals in danger of dying too! The coral bleaches, or turns white, from the stress of the threats. But, if the conditions improve soon, the coral can recover from the bleaching. If people can control the damage that we do on the coral reefs, we can still save them.



Diya V.
3/17/2021

Chapter 1: Chapter One: Sarah the Gossip Queen, AKA My Loveable Bestie

I yelped and jumped on my bed, burying my head under my pillows. “Sarahhhhh!!”, I screamed, only to be answered by a stifled laugh. I recovered from the moment, and regained my sane-ness. I could only hope Sarah had, too. I got out my phone and wiggled my eyebrow at my bestie. “Sarah, you look LOVELY in this shirt!”, I cooed, flipping my phone to show a picture of Sarah in an embarrassing t-shirt, making a weird face. A fraction of a second later, Sarah’s eyes widened, mouth dropping to the floor. “Oh no you don-”, She started, but I cut her off with a cackle. She whipped out her phone and searched for a more embarrassing photo of me, as I did the same for her.

Lina K. 3/27/2021

Record Junk Floating in Space

The orbiting lab jettisoned a 2.9 ton (5800 pounds) pallet of used batteries on the morning of March 11th. It was the most massive object they have ever discarded into space. The space junk is expected to fall back to Earth in about 2 - 4 years, but agency officials also said that it will burn harmlessly in the atmosphere, yet not everyone is so sure.

"This strikes me (haha, a pun given the circumstances) as dangerous. It seems big and dense so it's unlikely to burn up completely," astronomer and author Phil Plait, wrote on Twitter.

"Yes. On the other hand e.g. Tiangong-1 was 7500 kg [kilograms], which is much bigger. But I would say given how dense EP9 is, it's concerning, albeit at the low end of concerning," astronomer and satellite Jonathan McDowell responded.

Tiangong-1 was China's first prototype space station which ended up crashing down back to Earth over the Pacific Ocean in April 2018 and EP9, the abbreviation for Exposed Pallet 9, is the recently jettisoned object. EP9 came to the station last year on a Japanese HTV (H-II Transfer Vehicle). Dumping EP9 wasn't the original idea, EP9 was left behind last year due to a failed 2018 Soyuz launch. It was supposed to be packed into the disposable HTV which sent them down, like the ones before this pallet.

So since EP9 was left behind, space station managers decided to throw it overboard using a 57.7 foot long robotic arm. The EP9 has plenty of space junk company with him. According to the European Space Agency, researchers estimate that the orbit is crowded with debris objects everywhere.

Lana T.

3/21/2021

Shooting in Boulder, Colorado

Investigators were trying to figure out why a 21 - year old man wanted to murder 10 people on Tuesday, March 23.

The victims' ages were between 20 and 65.

The gunman was armed with a military - style semi automatic rifle and a pistol when he walked in the King Soopers grocery store on Monday and started shooting.

Sarah Moonshadow, a Boulder resident, told the officers "I just said 'Nicholas run,' and he said 'No, don't move.' I said 'Run right now we have three seconds,' and then he started running." She also said, "And then he shot towards us, we could feel it, and we kept going. We just ran and there was someone laying in the road."

The suspect's name was found as Ahmad Al Aliwi Alissa, who lived in a nearby suburb, Arvada, and was arrested on the scene. He was charged on Tuesday with 10 counts of first - degree murder, which means it has the penalty of life imprisonment.

The people he murdered included an important officer, and 9 other residents. "I feel numb. And it's heartbreaking," the chief said at a news conference. Officer Talley - and his 7 children - along with his wife were just at her office last week so that Talley could get his award. "He loved this community," she said. "He's everything that policing deserves and needs." President Joe Biden said, "Officer Talley did not hesitate in his duty, making the ultimate sacrifice in his effort to save lives. That's the definition of an American hero."

Alissa's brother told The Daily Beast that Alissa was paranoid and antisocial. That was probably why he started shooting at King Soopers.

"We can overcome opposition by cowardly politicians and the pressure of a gun lobby that opposes any limit on the ability of anyone to assemble an arsenal," Obama said. "We can, and we must."

Roshni K. 3/27/2021

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