

Coral Dramas

These dramas were developed as an alternative way of learning. Each bold heading is a different section of dramas that can be found throughout the curriculum at the appropriate place.

Growth Forms

1. Table coral

Put your arms straight out in front of you

2. Massive coral

Arc arms above head; elbows bent; hands clasped

3. Branching

Raise arms above head with elbows pressed together

4. Finger-like

Hands out flat; upright

5. Free- living

Clench fists separately

Functions of a polyp

6. Polyp

Two hands together; connected at wrist and elbow; wriggling fingers

7. Polyp eating plankton

Stiffen fingers to simulate stinging nematocyst catching plankton (zzzittt sound effect); fold fingers (like fist) one at a time to simulate tentacles feeding the mouth of the plankton. (make gulping sound effect) ("Yum, Yum" sound effect)

8. Poly using sun's energy

Have green dots all over your palm of your hand to symbolize the zooxanthellae. Open palms wide (photosynthesis) as can be and spread out fingers in a reaching position. Sway arms with elbows connected to display soaking in the sun's rays. ("Aaaah!" sound effect).

9. Frightened polyp

Close tight fists. ("huh"-suck in air- sound effect)

10. Polluted/ smothering polyp

Wiggling fingers, slightly bent looking sick ("coughing; gasping" sound effect).

11. Colony of polyps

Kids "glue" okole together with everyone's hands acting like polyps.

12. Plankton

Drift, twirl, swirl around (" la, la, la, la, la, la"- sound effect) to simulate ocean current drifting

Sexual reproduction

13. Brooding

Boys throw small white paper balls ("pphift"-sound effect) from cupped fists carefully into hands of girls fists catching it to simulate female polyp fertilizing eggs within.

14. Broadcasting

Boys (white paper balls) and girls (colored balls) throw paper balls simultaneously into the air simulating release of egg and sperm into the water column.

Asexual reproduction

15. Budding

Polyp elbows split apart from wrist towards elbow ("pushing" sound effect)

Life Cycle

16. Planula

- a. free floating zooplankton larva swirling and twirling looking around ("humming happily" sound effect)
- b. find uncomfortable substrate- settle on gluteus maximus but then quickly move again
- c. find comfortable substrate- settle on gluteus maximus crunch up like a ball.

- d. Slowly raise arms over head with elbows touching, fingers closed and slowly beginning to separate and wiggle.
- e. Extend above head represents maturing polyp as it [eats plankton] and [uses the sun's energy].
- f. Begins to bud with elbows separating ("grunting" sound effect)

17. Growing reef

Open fist and slowly close it; clump together with others budding atop each. ("Tick tock"- sound effect displays time passing).

Human Impacted Coral

18. Polyp being stepped on or crushed

Opened, healthy polyp immediately closing ("Ouch" sound effect)

19. Polyp dying

- ("cough, cough, greasy" sound effect)- symbolize being covered with oil.
- ("hot, hot, hot" sound effect) symbolize sea temperature rise from global warming.
- ("coughing, gasping; I can't feel the sun; Nooo" sound effect) symbolize being smothered by sediment/algae or marine debris.