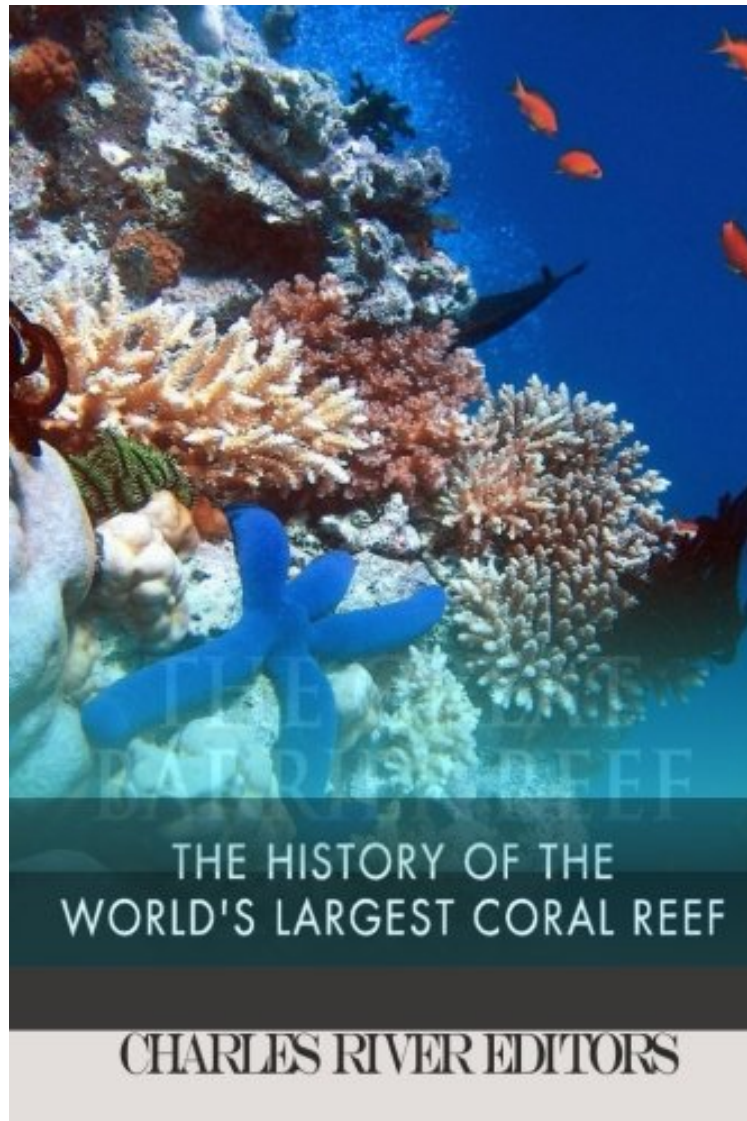


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The Great Barrier Reef: The History of the World's Largest Coral Reef

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Charles River Editors : The Great Barrier Reef: The History of the World's Largest Coral Reef before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Great Barrier Reef: The History of the World's Largest Coral Reef:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A nice book with beautiful color photosBy Reader2This is a very nice, albeit, short book detailing the history of the Great Barrier Reef. It starts with a color photo of a giant clam on the

reef. That's followed by a page about the Charles Rivers Editors. After that there's an introduction that tells you exactly what the Great Barrier Reef is and where it is. (Just in case you didn't know.) The next page is the Table of Contents and it is integrated with the book. There are 5 chapters and a bibliography. Chapter 1: The history of the Great Barrier Reef starts with James Cook's exploration of the area in 1770. There's a color photo of Captain Cook and two color photos of his ship, the HMS Endeavour. The first photo is of a replica of Cook's ship and the second photo is an illustration depicting the ship. At the end of this chapter, there are two aerial photos of parts of the reef. Chapter 2: This chapter pertains to Captain Matthew Flinders and others who sailed around the Great Barrier Reef. In addition to the photo of Flinders, there are several beautiful color photos of sea life in this section. (A clownfish, a blue starfish resting on coral, and a crown-of-thorns starfish) Chapter 3: This chapter is about naturalist, Joseph Beete Jukes, who was charged with investigating the geological character of the Great Barrier Reef. In addition to the history and photo of Jukes, there are photos of; coral *Turbinaria Mesenteriana*, orange sun coral, corals of various colors, lizardfish and sponges on the reef, banded coral shrimp, two photos of Lady Elliot Island and the surrounding reef, reef stonefish, Crescent-tail Bigeyes swimming along the reef, an aerial view of One-Tree Island, aerial photos of Heron Island, Anemonefish among the coral, and an Amphiprion akindynos among the coral. Chapter 4: This chapter is about the Torres Straits. This section starts to address the damage done to the coral as a result of human activity. There are photos of author, Saville-Kent, sea turtles, Surf Redfish, *Balistoides viridescens*, Torresian Imperial pigeons, and a rainbow bee-eater. Chapter 5: This chapter covers the modern world and what's needed for the Great Barrier Reef to survive and thrive. There are photos of a striped surgeonfish, a starry puffer, a humble sponge, and a dugong. As usual with the books by Charles River Editors, the history is short but interesting and the photos are beautiful. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Love the Charles River Editors concept. Their execution is sometimes spotty, but always worth the read. Quick peeks at history...if your interest is piqued (sorry), you can look further. Not sure that the subject was appropriate for the Charles River format. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. EXCELLENT. By BAARD. This ebook is very well done, lots of pictures. Informative and should be made available to children of all ages (4 to 94) Buy you will enjoy.

*Includes pictures *Includes accounts of the reef and animals written by explorers *Includes a bibliography for further reading *Includes a table of contents Coral is a very beautiful and unusual animal. Each coral head consists of thousand of individual polyps. These polyps are continually budding and branching into genetically identical neighbors. Antony Garrett List People have always loved to build things, whether its a feat of engineering in an underground subway or the construction of the worlds tallest skyscraper. Thus, its somewhat ironic that the largest structure ever built was not made by humans but by incredibly tiny organisms known as coral polyps. Over the course of tens of thousands of years, these small organisms have put together a collection of nearly 3,000 reefs that form a collective stretching across 130,000 square miles. It is often mistakenly claimed that the Great Wall of China can be seen in space, but its absolutely true that the enormous Great Barrier Reef is visible. The sheer size of the Great Barrier Reef is mind-boggling, but its importance extends far past its physical extent. Put simply, the Great Barrier Reef is one of the most beautiful spots on the planet, offering kaleidoscopic colors thanks to the coral and the species that call it home. This is understandable because a staggering number of species inhabit the Great Barrier Reef, ranging from starfish and turtles to alligators and birds. Scientists have counted about 1,500 different fish species using the reef, and its estimated that even 1.5 million birds use the site. In designating it a World Heritage Site, UNESCO wrote of the Great Barrier Reef, The Great Barrier Reef is a site of remarkable variety and beauty on the north-east coast of Australia. It contains the worlds largest collection of coral reefs, with 400 types of coral, 1,500 species of fish and 4,000 types of mollusc. It also holds great scientific interest as the habitat of species such as the dugong (sea cow) and the large green turtle, which are threatened with extinction. Unfortunately, an ecosystem as complex as the Great Barrier Reef is also vulnerable to a host of threats, whether its fishing, oil spills, or climate change. J.E.N. Veron, former chief scientist of the Australian Institute of Marine Science, described watching how coral was affected during whats known as a mass bleaching event: And then I saw a whammy, a mass bleaching event where everything turns white and dies. Sometimes it's only the fast-growing branching corals, but some of the others are horrible to see; corals that are four, five, six hundred years old they die, too Its real, day in, day out, and I work on this, day in, day out. It's like seeing a house on fire in slow motion There's a fire to end all fires, and you're watching it in slow motion, and you have been for years. In fact, scientists fear that the Great Barrier Reef has lost most of its coral cover in the last 30 years, which poses a danger to the species that inhabit it, some of which are already endangered. The Great Barrier Reef: The History of the Worlds Largest Coral Reef looks at the history of the reef and describes it in vivid detail. Along with pictures of important people, places, and events, you will learn about the Great Barrier Reef like never before, in no time at all.