

Creep into the Deep:
Discovering Deep-Sea Coral



Illustration by Paul Lopez

DEEP-SEA EXPLORER
Makeda Mills



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Defying Dissolution: North Pacific Deep-Sea Scleractinian
Reefs in Undersaturated Water (NSF OCE-1851378)

Creep into the Deep: Discovering Deep-Sea Coral

Makeda Mills

Graduate Student
Texas A&M University

Studies:

Bacteria that live on deep-sea corals

Research Focus:

How bacteria that live on deep-sea corals may help corals survive in difficult and unexpected areas throughout the Northwestern Hawaiian seamounts (underwater landforms similar to islands).

Has Studied:

The mode of transmission of stony coral tissue loss disease in the U.S. Virgin Islands (Makeda's home). Conducted research on the growth rates of three Caribbean coral species mounted to three different types of substrata.

Three things Makeda does to help the Earth:

Replaced single use items with silicon or aluminum. For example, instead of plastic sandwich bags uses bags made of silicone and carries bamboo utensils everywhere. Takes the bus on weekdays and uses car on weekends to run errands. Re-purposes empty glass containers for gardening or storage.

Something surprising about Makeda:

I enjoy playing piano, gardening, going to the beach, and traveling to try new foods and experiences.

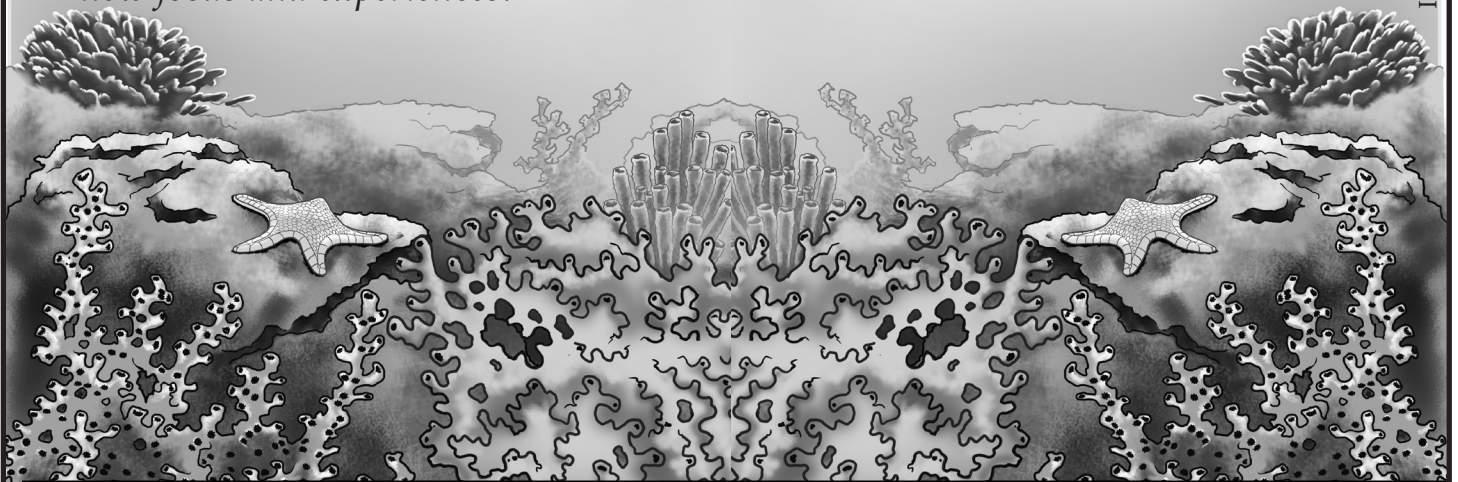


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