

Creep into the Deep: Discovering Deep-Sea Coral

SEAMAIL™

TO: Virtual Deep-Sea Science Team
FROM: Dr. Katie Shamberger
SUBJECT: The BIG question

Hello Virtual Science Team,

My name is Katie Shamberger. I am a scientist and a professor at Texas A & M University. I am also one of the leaders of this deep-water coral research project.

There is so much we don't know about these reefs. We don't know exactly what kind of corals live there. We don't know all the animals and microbes that live with them. We don't know how and when they reproduce. We would like to answer all of these questions.

But there is one BIG question we want to answer—

How are these deep water, reef-building corals living in a place where we thought they could not survive?

Science is all about asking questions and then looking for answers. It's actually kind of exciting when we find something brand new that we never knew about. And it's amazing when people who study many different things come together to try to answer the same question.

Talk to you soon.

Katie

Dr. Karie Shamberger
Deep-Sea Explorer
WhaleTimes.org



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Illustration by Paul Lopez

When you have a BIG question, what kinds of things do you do to find the answer?