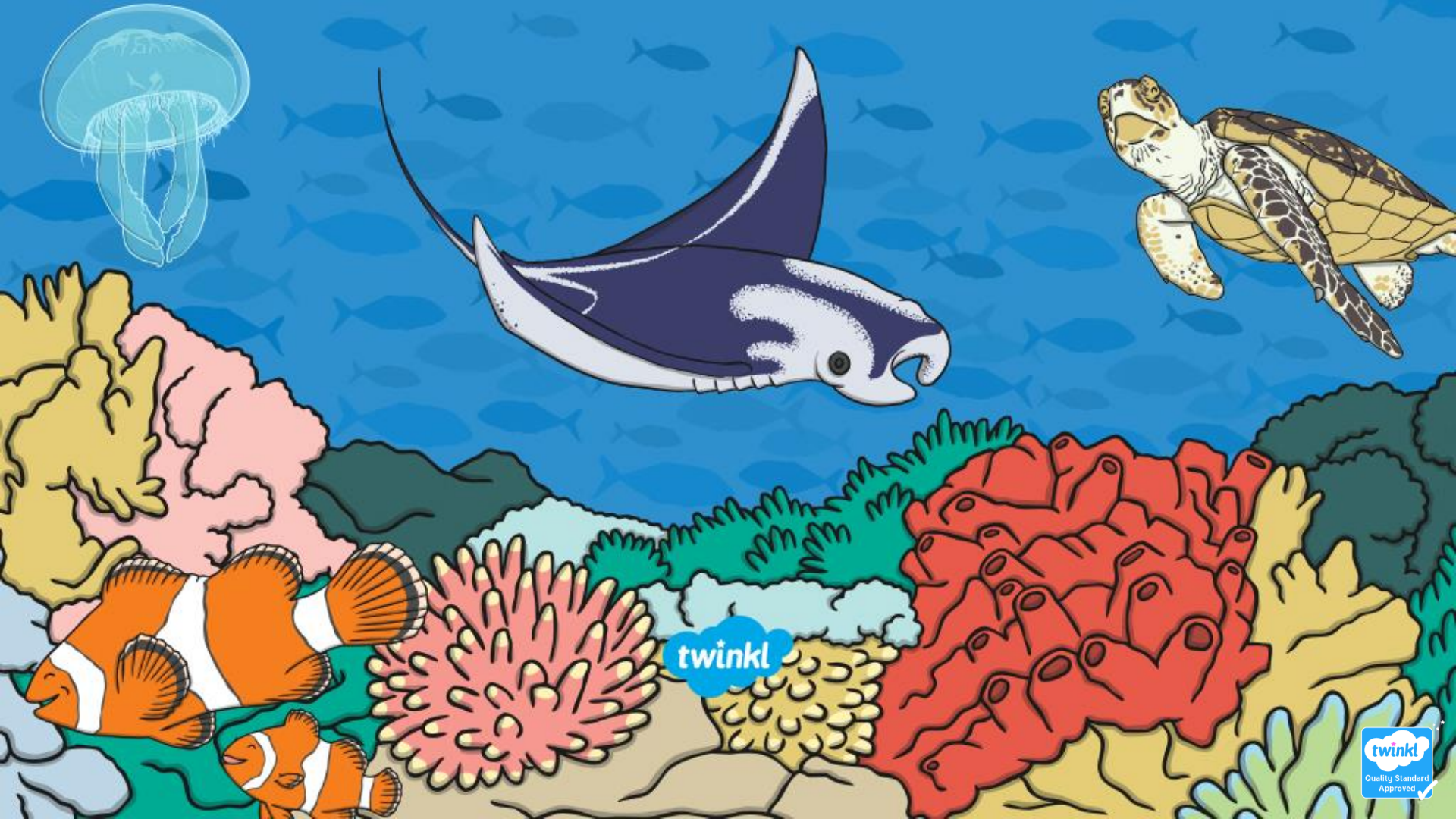


# The Great Barrier Reef



Today we are learning about one of Australia's unique and diverse habitats, The Great Barrier Reef.

Watch one of these clips and read through the information on the following pages.

See if you can find the answers to these questions:

What is a coral reef?

Why is the Great Barrier Reef a special environment?

What animals live there?

<https://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/00000144-0a20-d3cb-a96c-7b2de9850000>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=61RzwbaSoeU>

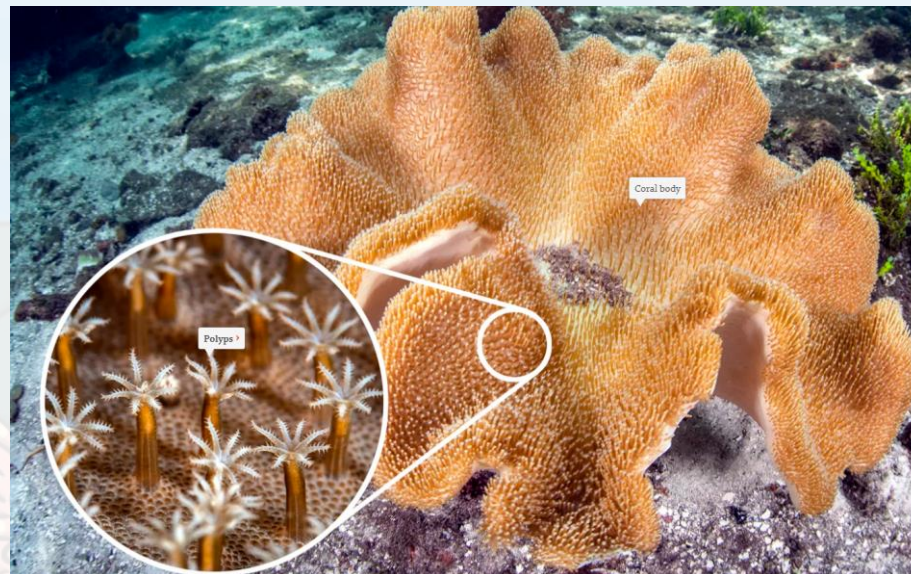
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J2BKd5e15Jc>





# Coral and coral reefs

The living part of a coral is made up of tiny creatures called polyps, which are relatives of sea anemones. Polyps often live together in large colonies, snatching food from the water with their tentacles. Coral polyps protect themselves by building hard cases or tubes out of minerals. Over millions of years, these cases form giant coral reefs, which provide homes to enormous numbers of other sea creatures.



# Facts

The Great Barrier Reef is the largest living structure on the planet, it is incredibly rich and diverse.

It stretches for 2300 km and is so large it can even be seen from outer space.

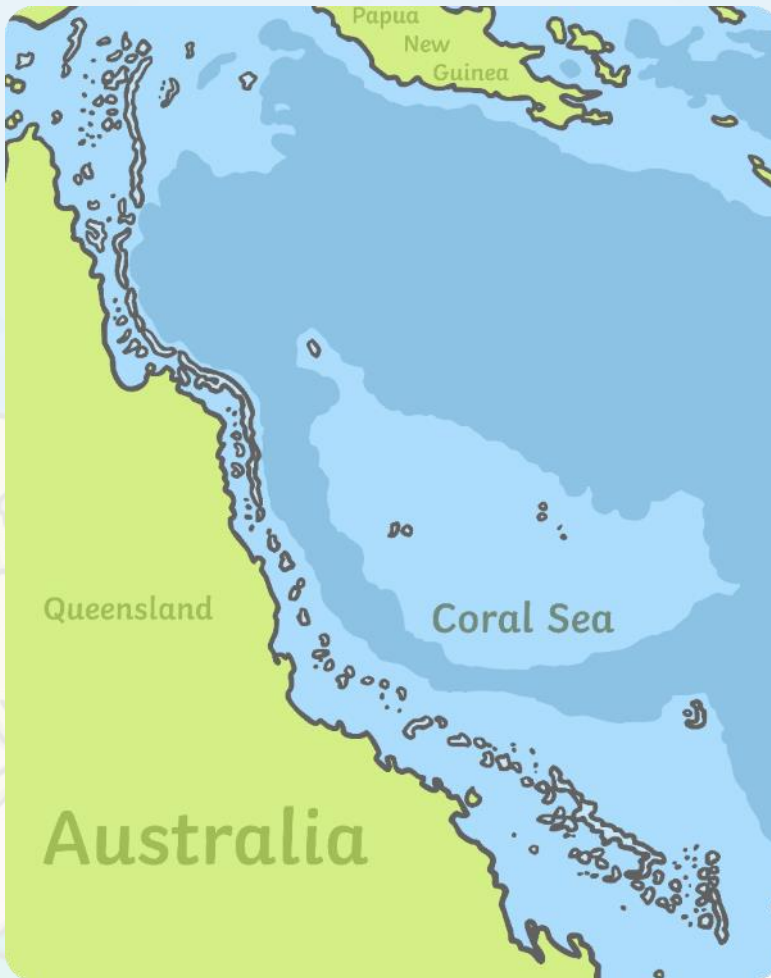
Its colourful reefs are home for a huge number of plants and animals.

This includes:

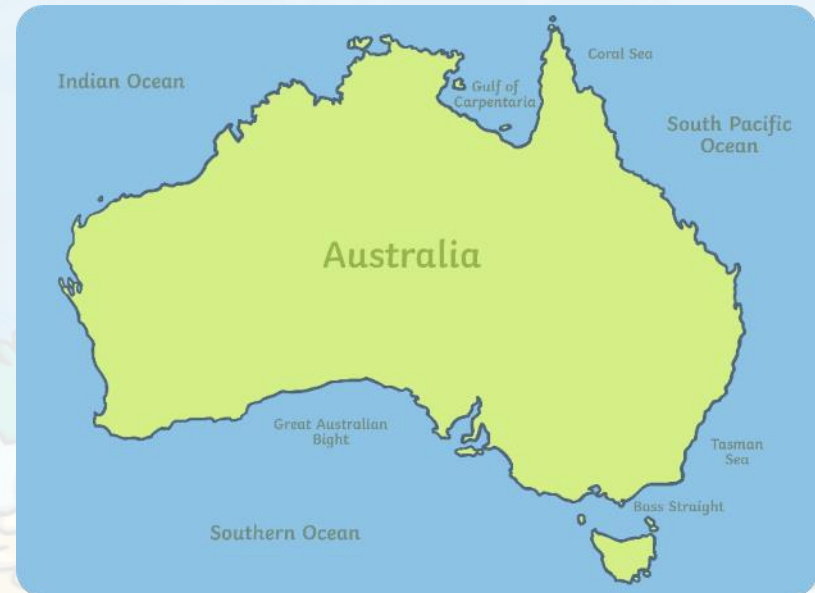
- 600 types of corals
- more than 100 species of jellyfish
- 1625 types of fish
- 133 varieties of sharks and rays
- more than 30 species of whales and dolphins.



# Where is the Great Barrier Reef?



The park stretches over 3000km (1800 miles) along the Queensland coast, from near the southern town of Bundaberg, up past Cape York.



# How Big Is the Great Barrier Reef?

It is the world's largest reef.

It can even be seen from outer space.

It is bigger than the United Kingdom, Holland and Switzerland put together.

It is bigger than Tasmania and Victoria put together.



# Animals of the Great Barrier Reef



manta ray



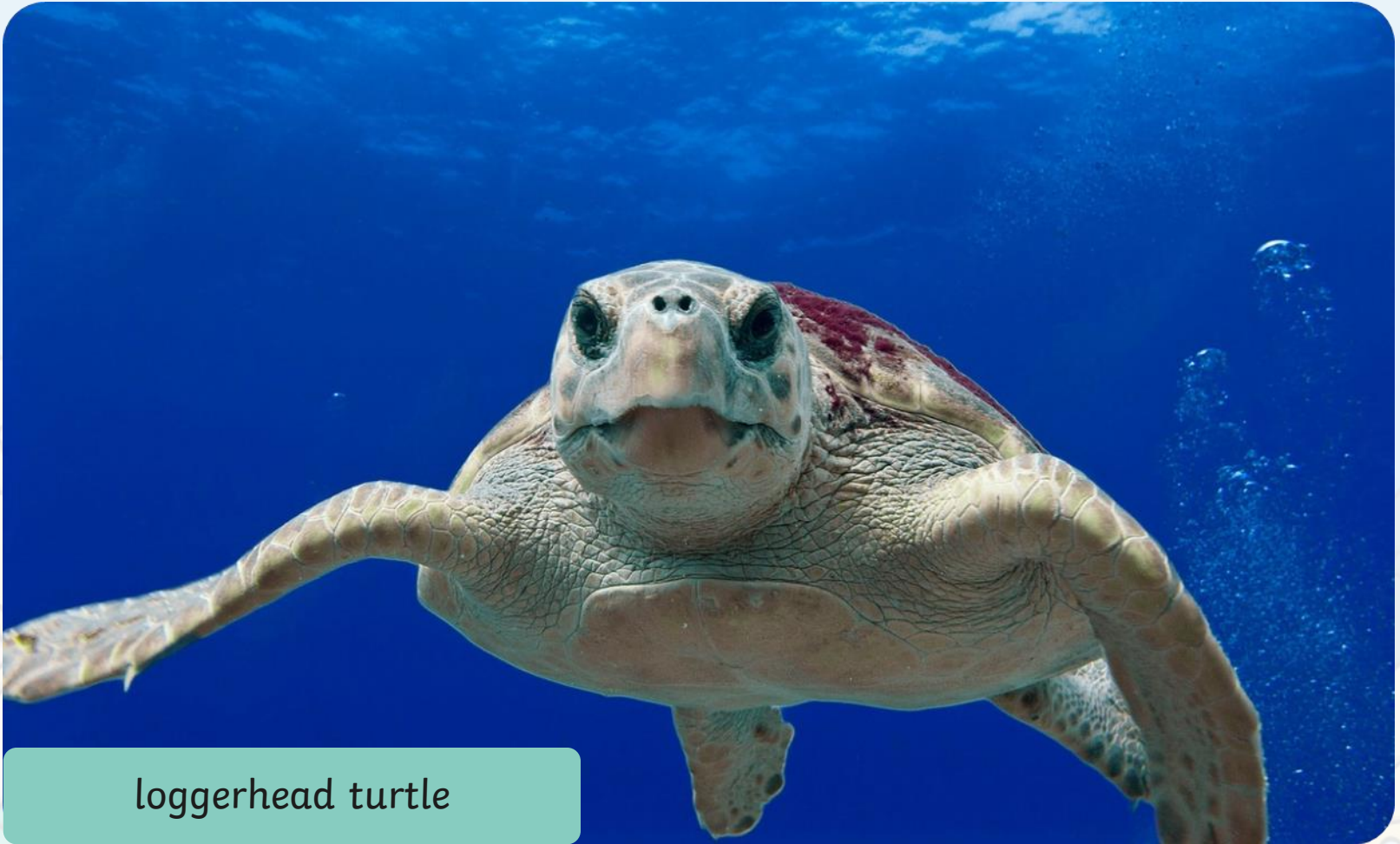
# Animals of the Great Barrier Reef



dugong



# Animals of the Great Barrier Reef



loggerhead turtle

# Animals of the Great Barrier Reef



clownfish



# Your task

Use the sheet to write some facts about The Great Barrier Reef.

Draw and label some of the animals that live there.

Think about why we need to protect the reef.

Interesting fact:

Mr Monk has been snorkelling on The Great Barrier Reef!

## The Great Barrier Reef



Did you know...?

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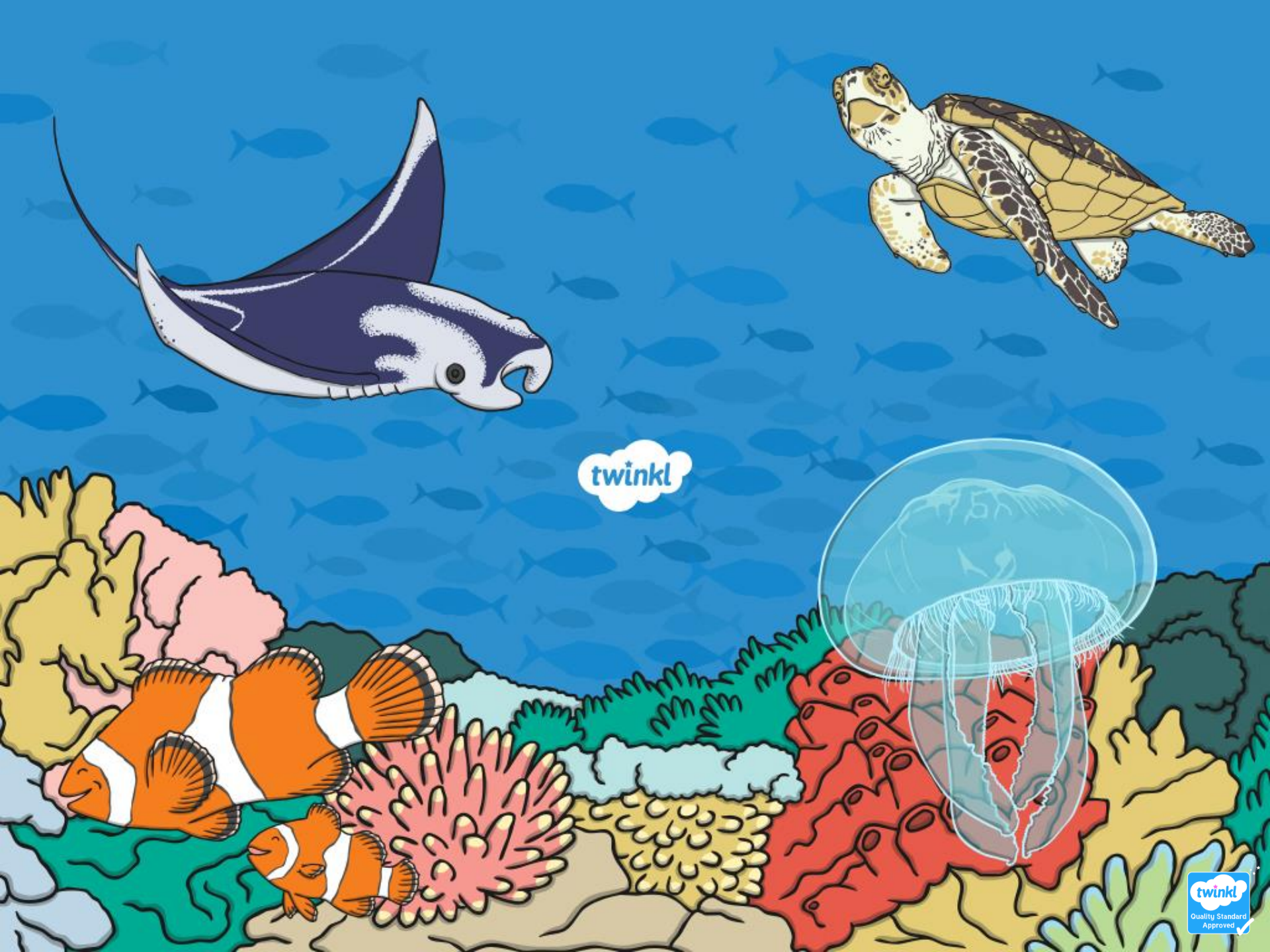
I can draw and label animals from the Great Barrier Reef.

Why should we protect the Great Barrier Reef?

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twinkl