



## **FUN FACTS ABOUT CORALS of Barbados**

- 1. The island of Barbados was once a coral reef**
- 2. Corals are tiny animals ( not plants) called polyps**
- 3. Coral polyps belong to the same group as the jelly fish family**
- 4. Polyps live in colonies and their fused skeletons are called reefs.**
- 5. Reefs are the largest structures on the planet created by animals**
- 6. There are many different types of corals; hard corals like brain coral and soft corals like sea fans.**
- 7. It is illegal to damage or sell coral**
- 8. Corals take a very long time to grow (0.5 – 2cm per year)**
- 9. Many of our corals spawn, all at once and only once per year**
- 10. Coral reefs around Barbados protect the beaches from erosion and wave action.**
- 11. Reef fish need the coral for shelter and survival.**
- 12. Our white sand is primarily derived from coral reefs; no coral, no beach , no tourism!!!!**
- 13. There at least 34 named coral reef and wreck dive sites around Barbados.**
- 14. Run off of chemicals or other nutrients from the land kill our corals.**
- 15. Atlantis Submarine dives on the west coast on Freshwater Bay aka Clarkes Reef.**

**Come see mother nature at work, enjoy and learn more in a fun environment with Atlantis Submarines**

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