

Explore 3D models or corals washed up on your beach

Let's take a closer look at corals! Explore different shaped coral structures using 3D computer models or find some coral rubble on your beach! Remember, don't damage or take any corals from under the water.

Ulithi & Pacific Island Students:

What you'll do:

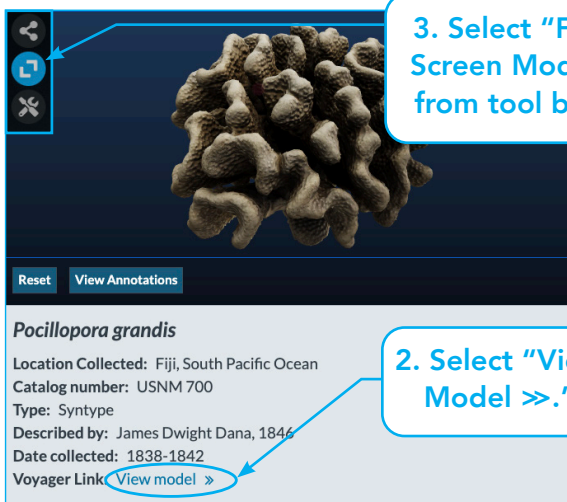
Collect non-living coral pieces from your beach. Try to find samples with interesting shapes that show how corals grow. Take the samples back to your classroom to observe for this activity.



Ulithi students on Falalop explore their beach looking for broken pieces of non-living corals to study.

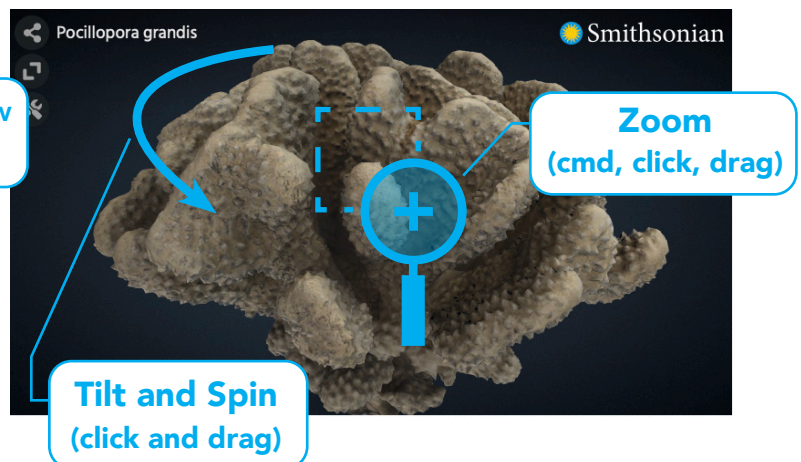
Students with computer access:

1. Go to <https://3d.si.edu/corals/coral-community> to view the coral species menu.
2. Select "**View Model >>**" beneath the coral species you wish to explore.



3. Select the "Full Screen Mode" icon from the left tool bar:

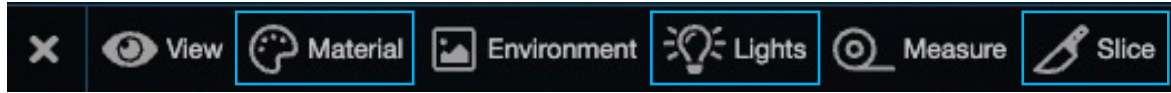
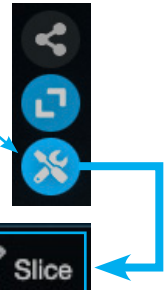
4. **Tilt and Spin:** Click and drag your mouse to tilt and spin the 3D model.



5. **Zoom In and Out:** Hold the "option key", or "cmd key" while you click and drag your mouse.

6. **Viewing Options:** Select the "Tools" icon to cut, color, and view in x-ray vision.

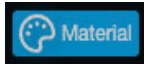
Select the Tools icon to bring up the bottom tool bar.



Material (view in x-ray)



Click "Material".



Select "X Ray" and explore.



Lights (change Color)



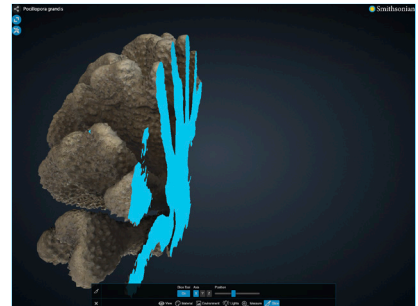
Select "Lights".



Click the color square and use the slider.



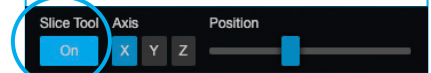
Slice (cut the model)



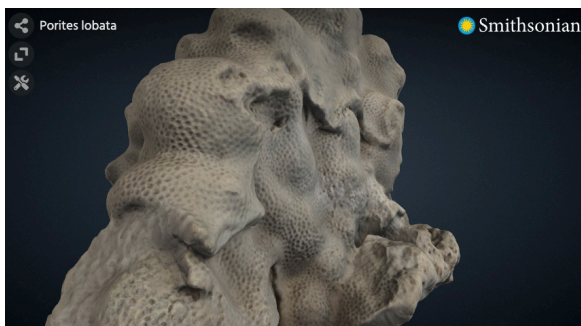
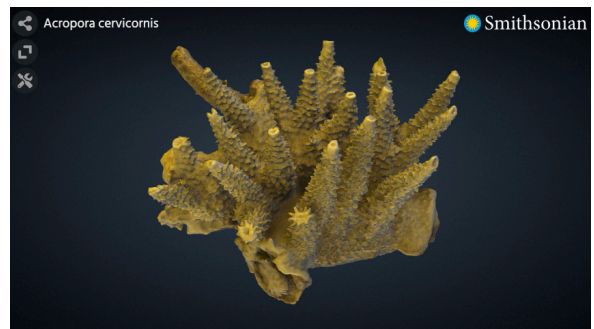
Select "Slice".



Select "On" and move the slider back and forth.

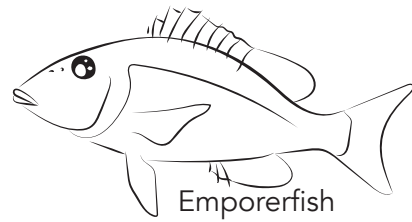


7. Select another species! View another 3D model!

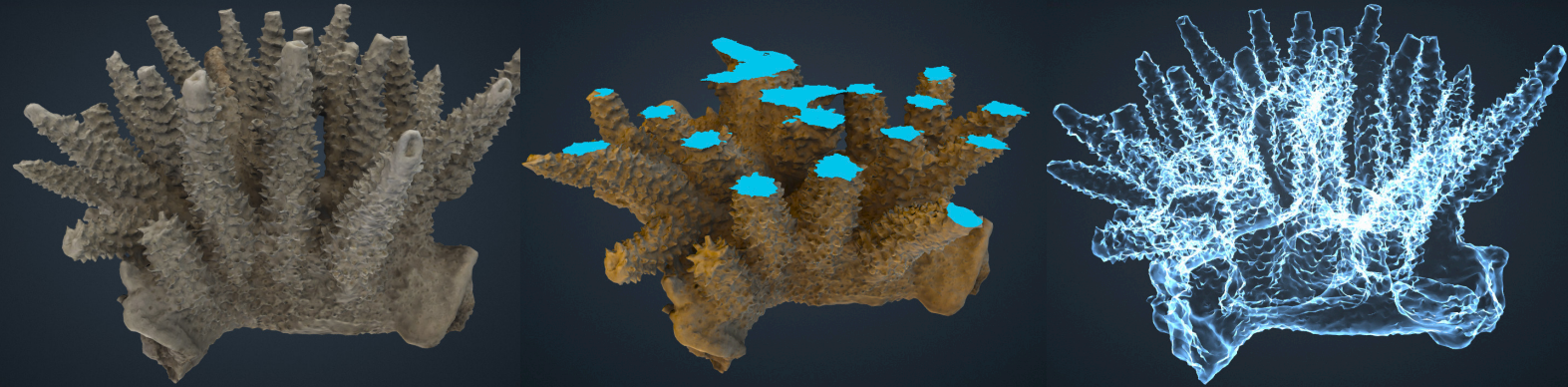


3D Models of Corals

If you don't have access to a computer, don't worry!
Observe these 3D images of staghorn coral.



Acropora Cervicornis Staghorn coral



Ulithi students on Falalop observe, sort,
and sketch their non-living corals in class.

How many types of coral did
you find? How can you tell the
difference between different
types of coral?



Think,
Pair,
Share!

My Observations

After you explore your coral or 3D coral model, record your thoughts and observations.

Which types of coral did you explore?

Sketch it here:

Write something interesting about this coral.

How would you describe this coral to somebody who has never seen it?



Chub