

Stories of Place in Place Names

Based on your favorite place or another important place in your community:

- What is the name of this place?
- What is the meaning or origin of this place name?
- Is there a story associated with this place?

Poster / Map Building

Identify important terms related to this place

- 1 plant
- 1 animal
- 2 words that describe an activity that occurs in that place

Put your place name on the **poster or map**

OUR LOW ISLAND ENVIRONMENT

Different island places are homes to different kinds of plants and animals. Each living thing needs the right environment to survive. For example, a tree lives in the forest, but a fish lives in the lagoon.

Environments on land are called terrestrial environments. They include forests and gardens. Environments very near or under water are called aquatic environments. They include places with fresh water, such as taro pits, and places with seawater, such as coral reefs.

If we do not preserve the different environments on our islands, some plants and animals will lose their homes and disappear forever.



4 BEACHES are sandy areas where ocean and land meet. Many birds, lizards, crabs, and other creatures live there in the shade of coconut palms.



5 SMALL ISLANDS without people are perfect places for sea turtles and sea birds to make their nests. They cannot survive without these nesting sites.



6 LAGOONS are parts of the ocean surrounded by land and coral reefs. They are homes to countless sea animals. Most of our seafood comes from lagoons.



1 ATOLL FORESTS grow on low islands that have not been greatly affected by people. Lush and wild, they are home to many native plant and animals.



2 AGROFORESTS surround villages, where people make their gardens and plant useful trees. These areas are full of fruits and other valuable plants.



3 TARO PITS are found in low-lying areas. They were dug by people over many generations. They are partly covered with water and are used to grow taro.



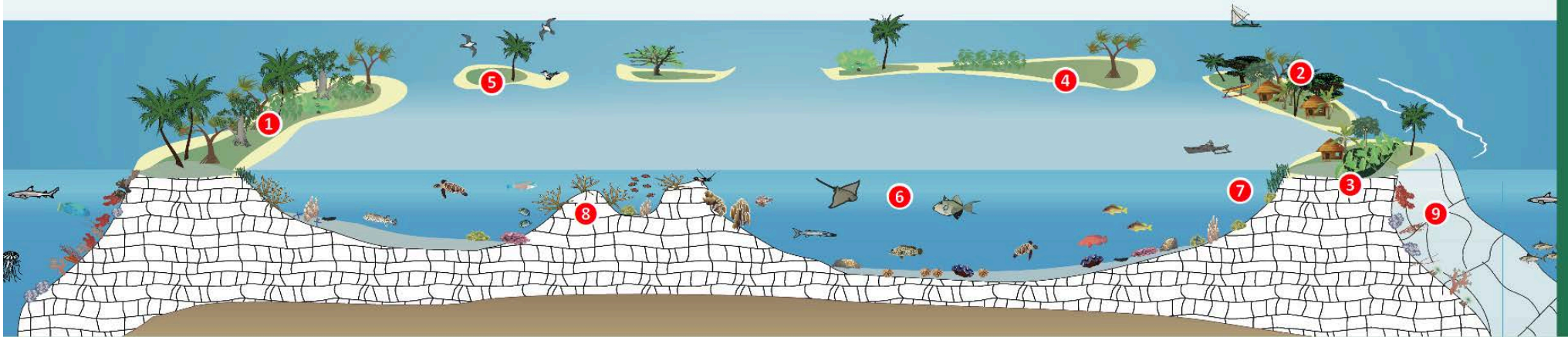
7 LAGOON-FACING REEFS are well protected from waves. There are few corals and lots of mud and sand. Many animals like those quiet conditions.



8 PATCH REEFS grow like little underwater hills from the muddy or sandy lagoon floors. With their nooks and crannies, they shelter many sea animals.



9 OCEAN-FACING REEFS are exposed to waves. Their outer walls are very steep and border on the open ocean. Big fish and many different corals live here.



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OUR HIGH ISLAND ENVIRONMENT

Different island places are homes to different kinds of plants and animals. Each living thing needs the right environment to survive. For example, a tree lives in the forest, but a fish lives in the lagoon.

Environments on land are called terrestrial environments. They include forests and grasslands. Environments very near or under water are called aquatic environments. They include places with fresh water, such as wetlands and ponds, and places with seawater, such as mangrove swamps and coral reefs.

If we do not preserve the different environments on our islands, some plants and animals will lose their homes and disappear forever.



1 UPLAND FORESTS cover remote mountains of high islands. They are lush, wild and ancient forests that are home to many rare plants and animals.



3 GRASSLANDS are areas covered with grasses and small plants. There are few or no trees there. Many plants and animals like to live in open sunny spaces.



4 WETLANDS are areas on land that are often covered with water. Fishes, crabs, and water plants live in those places. People grow taro there.



5 MANGROVES are trees that can tolerate saltwater. They grow along the coasts and form large flooded forests between the land and the sea.



6 SEAGRASSES are small plants that grow in beds (fields) in shallow lagoons. Many young fishes hide in seagrass beds and move away when they grow up.



7 BEACHES are sandy areas where ocean and land meet. Many birds, lizards, crabs, and other creatures live there in the shade of coconut palms.



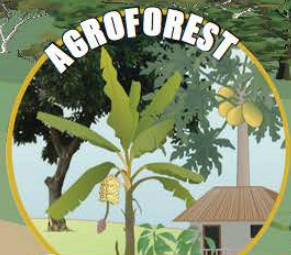
8 LAGOONS are parts of the ocean surrounded by land and coral reefs. They are homes to countless sea animals. Most of our seafood comes from lagoons.



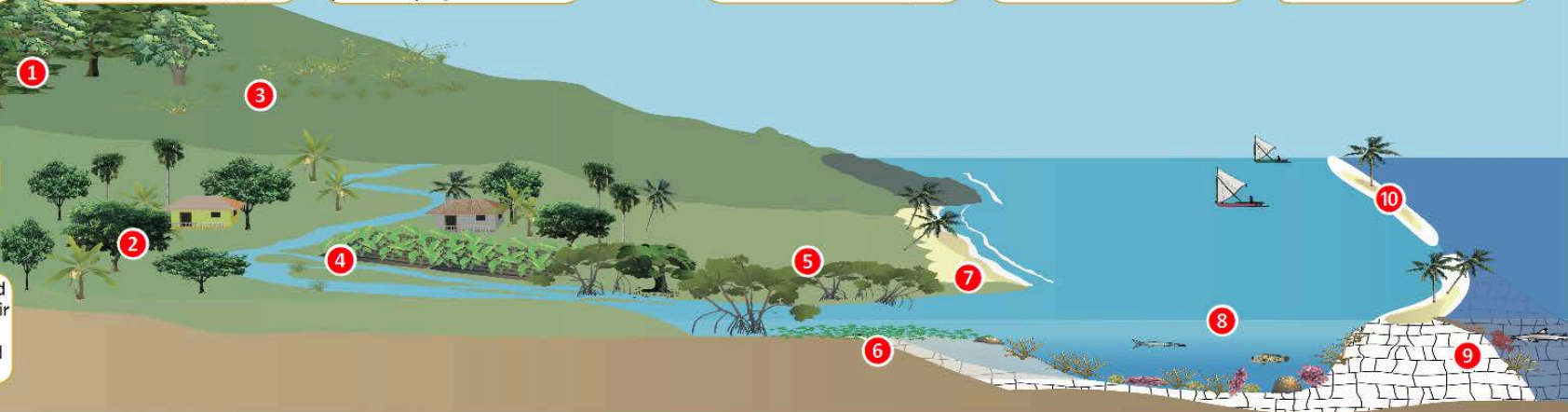
9 REEFS are huge structures built underwater by corals and other sea life. They are incredibly diverse and full of life. They shelter our islands from waves.



10 SMALL ISLANDS form on top of some large reefs. These islands are sandy and low. Many seabirds and turtles go there to make their nests.



2 AGROFORESTS surround villages, where people make their gardens and plant useful trees. These areas are full of fruits and other valuable plants.



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Stories of Place in Place Names

- Based on our favorite / important places, are there patterns in how we use our place?
- How can learning about place names help our students understand their places?
- Who can help our students learn the names of their favorite and important places?