



Welcome to Spike Dino's daily post for children learning from home.

### Under the Sea - Brain Coral

Spike found this unusual object on a shelf in the Museum. It has a strange rough texture and he thought it looked a little like a brain. He has learned that it is something called Brain Coral.



#### Spike Brain Coral Facts;

- Brain corals belong to a group of hard corals.
- Their exoskeleton is made from calcium carbonate, or limestone.
- They grow very slowly.
- Some live up to 900 years old and grow to 1.8m tall.
- Their sturdy structure forms the foundation of coral reefs.
- They are invertebrates - they have no backbone.
- They look like rocks but are actually animals.
- They can't live in water cooler than 18°C.
- They prefer shallow clear water that the sun can shine through.
- They eat zooplankton that floats past them, or the algae that live among them.

Find out more at this website; <https://kids.kiddle.co/Coral>

**Activity;** Use your imagination to create your own coral reef using scrap materials, pipe cleaners, pasta, plasticine etc. Share your pictures with us.

Share your pictures tagging @MaidstoneMuseum and #SpikeDinosAdventures or by emailing [museumeducation@maidstone.gov.uk](mailto:museumeducation@maidstone.gov.uk)