



Ko'a

Aloha! My name is Pu'ulu, and I am an antler coral. People sometimes think I am a plant, but I'm really an animal! What looks like branches of a plant are actually colonies, or groups of coral animals. Each individual animal is called a polyp, and has a hard skeleton and soft body. All the polyps form together to make a colony. I eat by using tentacles to capture food floating by me. I live in shallow reefs, so I need to be strong to hold up to strong currents. Even though I am strong against the waves, I am very sensitive to other things touching me. So please do not touch or stand on me because that will hurt me. I need to stay alive and healthy to provide shelter for many other living creatures within the reef.

