

## Discussion Guide for Families



### **The Brilliant Deep: Rebuilding the World's Coral Reefs: The Story of Ken Nedimyer and the Coral Restoration Foundation**

*Author:* Kate Messner

*Illustrator:* Robert Sae-Heng

**Themes:** Environment and Sustainability

**Book Brief:** All it takes is one: one coral gamete to start a colony in the ocean, one person to make a difference in the world, one idea to help us heal the earth. The ongoing conservation efforts to save and rebuild the world's coral reefs—with hammer and glue, and grafts of newly grown coral—are the living legacy of environmental scientist Ken Nedimyer, founder of the Coral Restoration Foundation.

## READ ALOUD

### **Before Reading: Build Background**

- Watch a short video from the Natural History Museum, London, to learn why coral reefs are important. Talk about what you noticed and why you think coral reefs might need help.

### **While Reading: Make Connections**

- How does young Ken show determination? What actions from the story support your answer?
- Why do you think the coral reefs started losing their color during one hot summer?
- How does Ken keep his coral colony alive? What do he and his team do with what they've learned?

### **After Reading: Ask Questions**

- How did Ken's patience and determination help the coral reefs survive and grow? What words would you use to describe Ken?

## RELATED ACTIVITIES

### **If your child enjoyed this book, consider:**

- Encourage them to talk about it during other conversations.
- Check out RIF's [Sustainable Futures](#) center to learn more about sustainability with related books and resources.