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12.007 Geobiology
Spring 2009

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Bahama banks

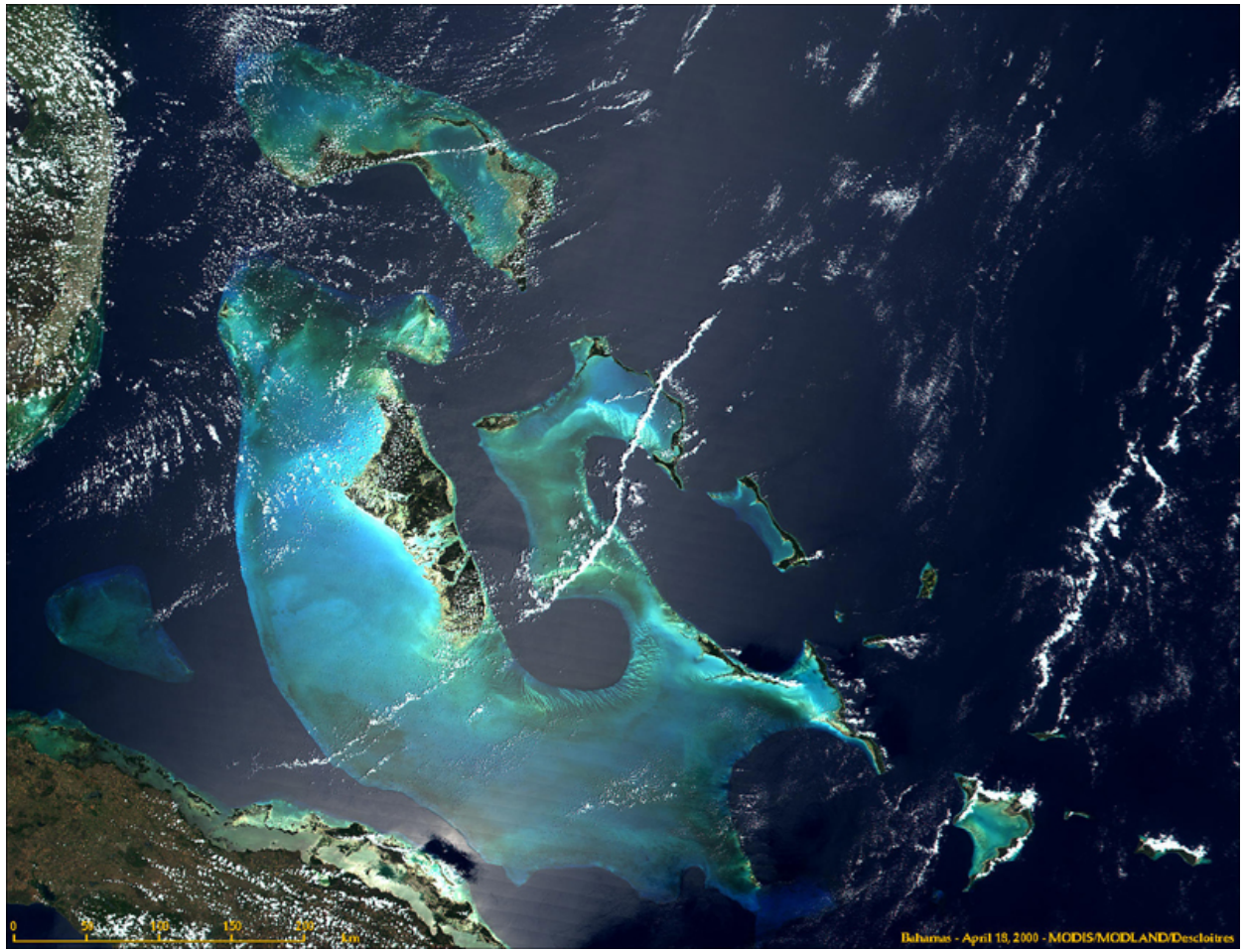

Image courtesy of NASA.

Whiting events

Image courtesy of NASA.

Reefs

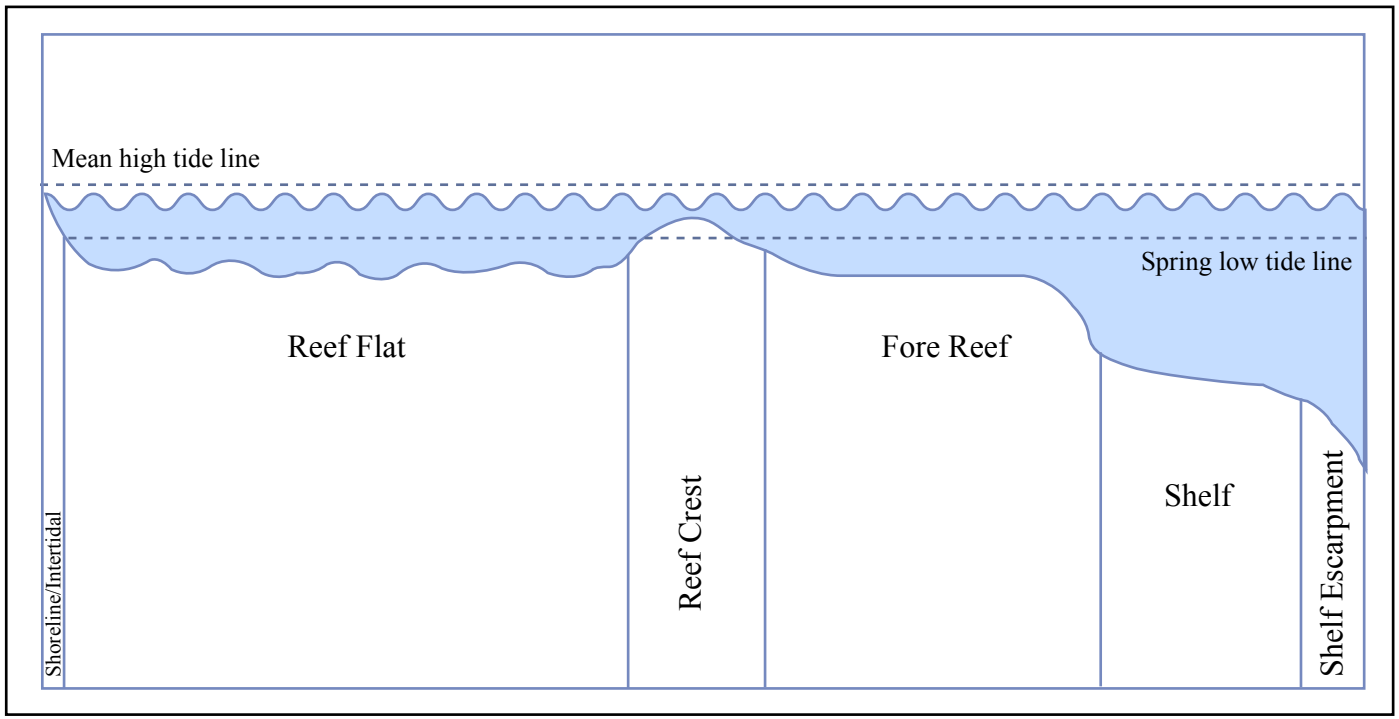

Figure by MIT OpenCourseWare.

Reef builders vs. Reef dwellers

Image courtesy of NOAA.

crinoid

Image courtesy of NOAA.

octopus

Image courtesy of NOAA.

fish

Image courtesy of NOAA.

slug

Ecological roles

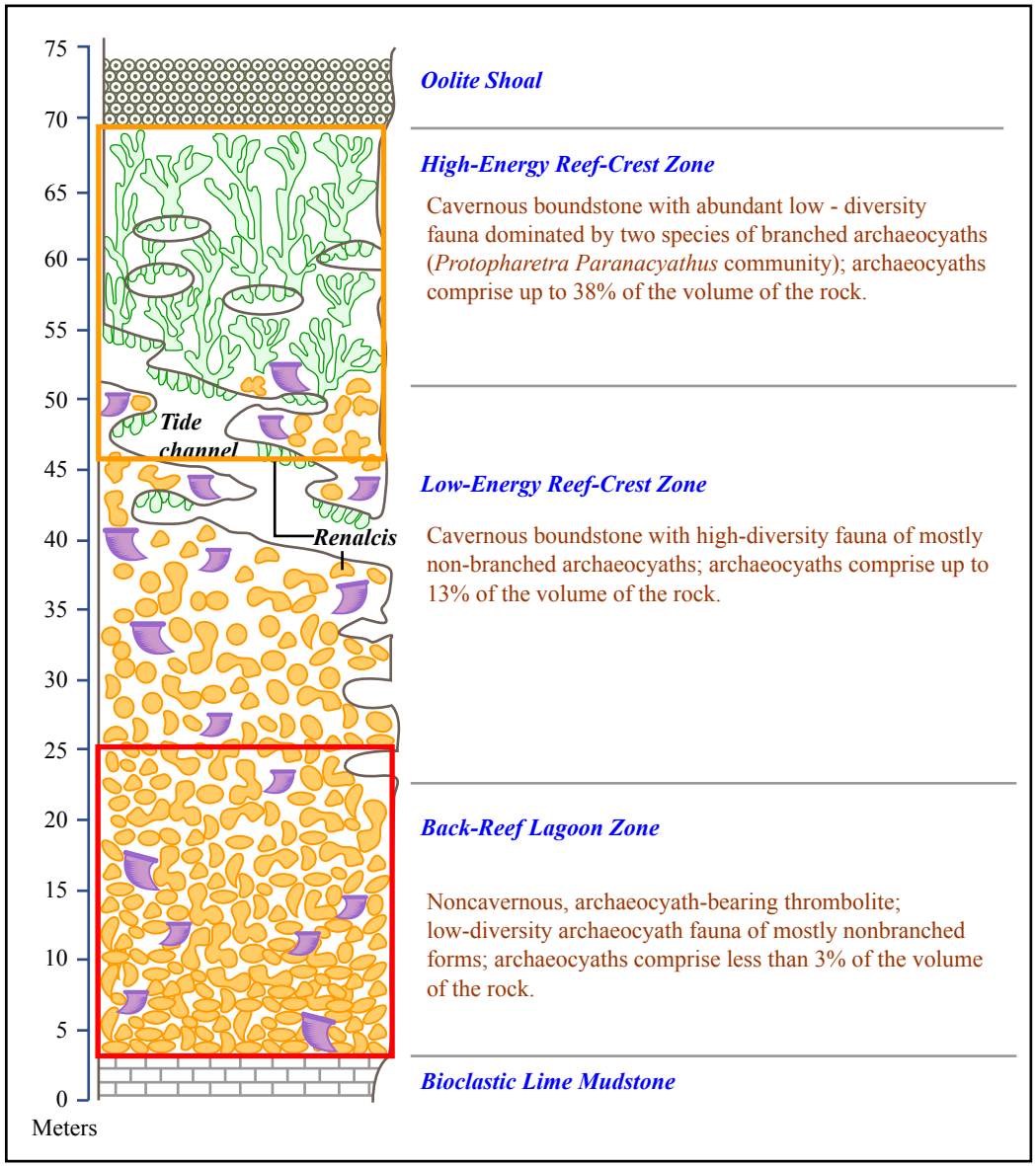

Figure by MIT OpenCourseWare.

Higher skeletal volume

Low skeletal volume

Proterozoic Reefs

Microbial Reefs

Interpreting Reef Fossils

Cambrian microbial reef

Cambrian reefs

Image courtesy of NOAA.

TRILOBITE

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Please see:
http://www.palaeontologie.uni-wuerzburg.de/

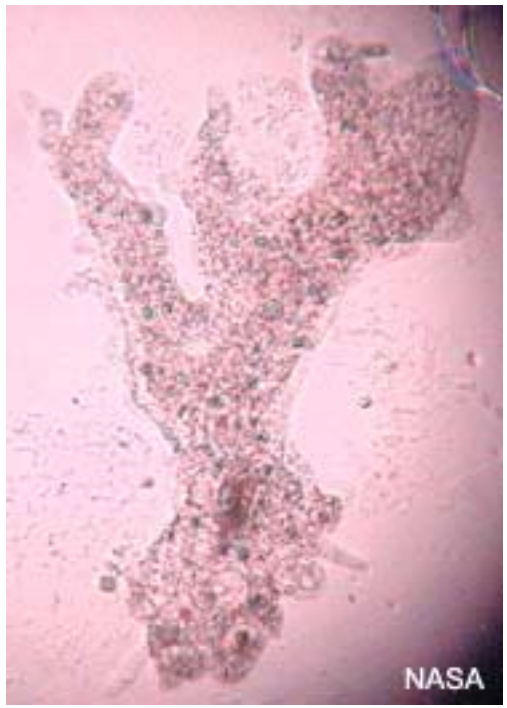

Image courtesy of NASA.

ARCHEOCYATHS

Interpreting Reef Fossils

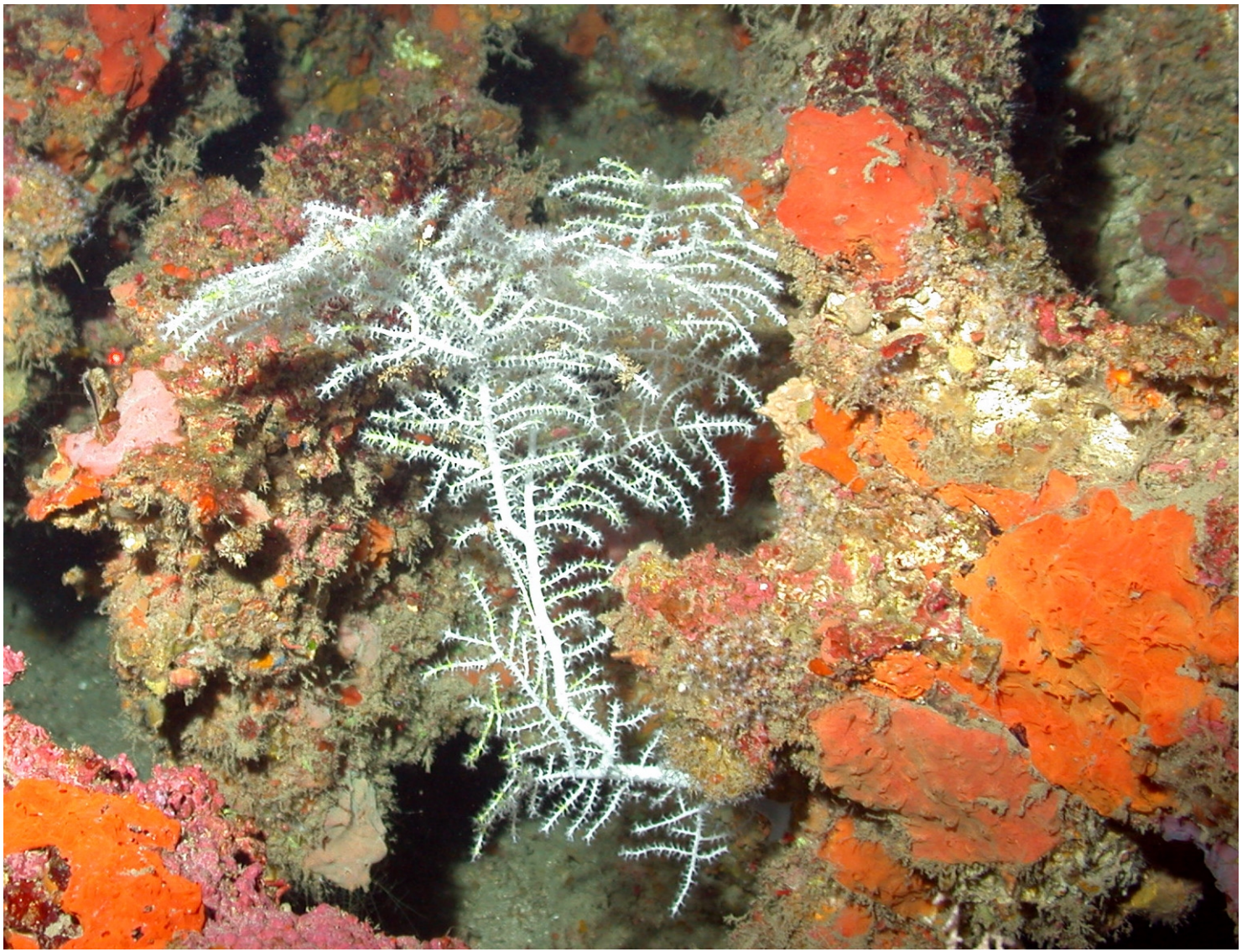

Image courtesy of NOAA.

Echinoderms

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Please see:

http://scienceblogs.com/pharyngula/2006/11/the_sea_urchin_genome.php

Cambrian reefs

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Please see:
http://www.palaeos.com/Paleozoic/Cambrian/EarlyCam.html

Ordovician Radiation
Paleozoic Reefs

Image courtesy of NOAA.

Ordovician Radiation

Paleozoic Reefs

Stromatoporoids

- Calcareous sponges with robust skeletons
- Important reef-builders of the Paleozoic
- Suffered extinction during the Late Devonian

Brachiopods

Image courtesy of NOAA.

Ammonites

Image courtesy of NASA.

Conodonts

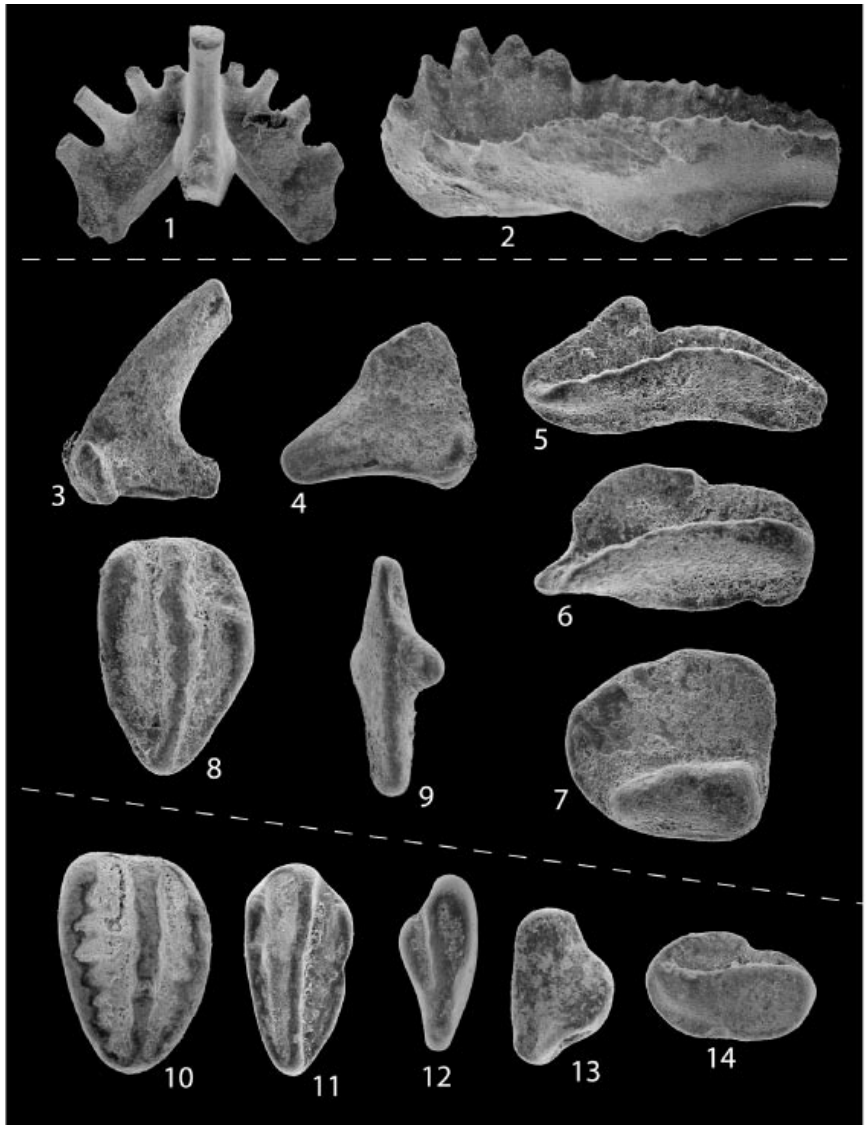

Image courtesy of USGS.

Encrinites

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Please see:
http://www.cmpb.net/images/photo_fos_belg/frasnien/image019.jpg

Modern crinoid

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Please see:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Feather-star1.jpg