

Name _____

INTERACTIONS

Directions: Read the information below.

November 15, 2018

Dear Class,

My name is Nicholas Murphy, and I'm the mayor of Whitebridge, Florida. Our state is well-known for its proximity to ocean life. Each year, thousands of people venture to Florida to visit our beaches and take a dip in the ocean. Tourists enjoy activities like cruises and scuba diving. Unfortunately, our town has recently faced a problem that has halted much of our tourism.

The coral reef near our coastal town has been dying. You see, the aquatic ecosystem is a wonderful tourist destination, but it's also too delicate for humans to tamper with. People come here to visit the reefs, but it's these people whose presence the reefs cannot handle. If we close off the ocean to visitors, we risk losing a lot of revenue for our city. On the other hand, if we continue letting visitors interact with our reefs, they may all die off, creating even larger effects for other ocean life.

It is my hope that your class can help me solve this problem for my town. By my own estimates, we need to maintain approximately \$250,000 a year in tourism revenue. This can come in the form of money from attraction tickets, hotel stays, restaurants, and other local sources. Please come up with a plan that my city council can review. You must include information about:

- Specific details as to how we can help both the reefs and our local economy
- How much revenue your plan could generate
- How many tourists are needed to gain at least \$250,000

We cannot continue doing things the way we are. We need both the tourists and the reefs. Please help us find a solution. We are all counting on you!

Sincerely,
Mayor Murphy

Directions: Answer the questions below.

1. Use the space below to describe the details of your plan.
2. What are the advantages to visitors?
3. What are the advantages to the coral reef?
4. What are the disadvantages of your plan?