

NATURAL WONDERS

GREAT BARRIER REEF



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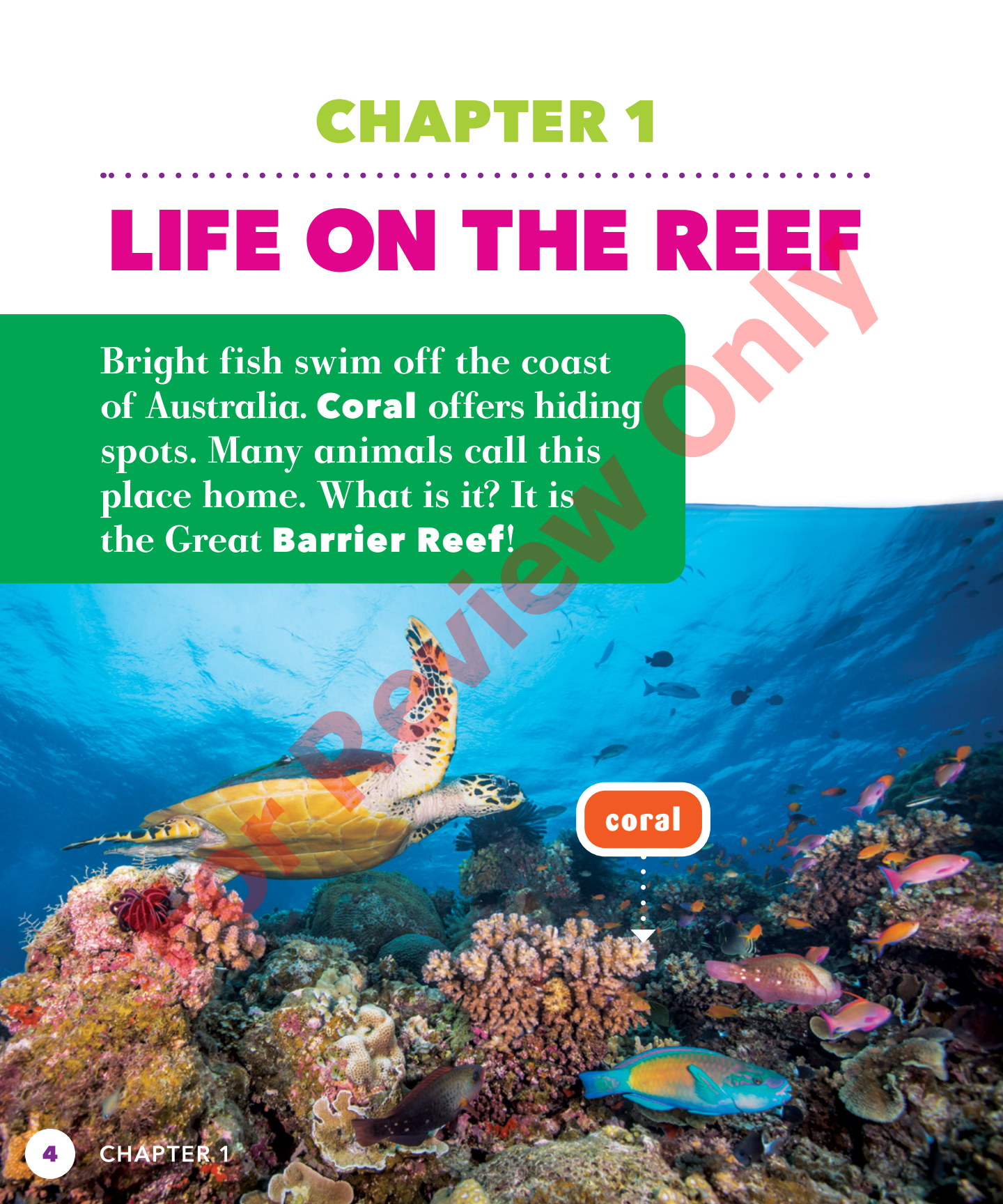
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CHAPTER 1

LIFE ON THE REEF

Bright fish swim off the coast of Australia. **Coral** offers hiding spots. Many animals call this place home. What is it? It is the Great **Barrier Reef**!

A vibrant underwater scene featuring a large sea turtle with a yellow and black patterned shell swimming over a diverse coral reef. The reef is covered in various types of coral, including branching and brain coral, and is populated by numerous colorful fish. A label 'coral' with a pointer indicates a specific area of the reef.

coral

The Great Barrier Reef is 1,429 miles (2,300 kilometers) long. It is in the Coral Sea.



The water is **shallow** and warm. Sunlight heats it. **Algae** live in the coral. They make and share food with the coral. Many types of coral make up the reef.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Great Barrier Reef is the only living thing visible from space!





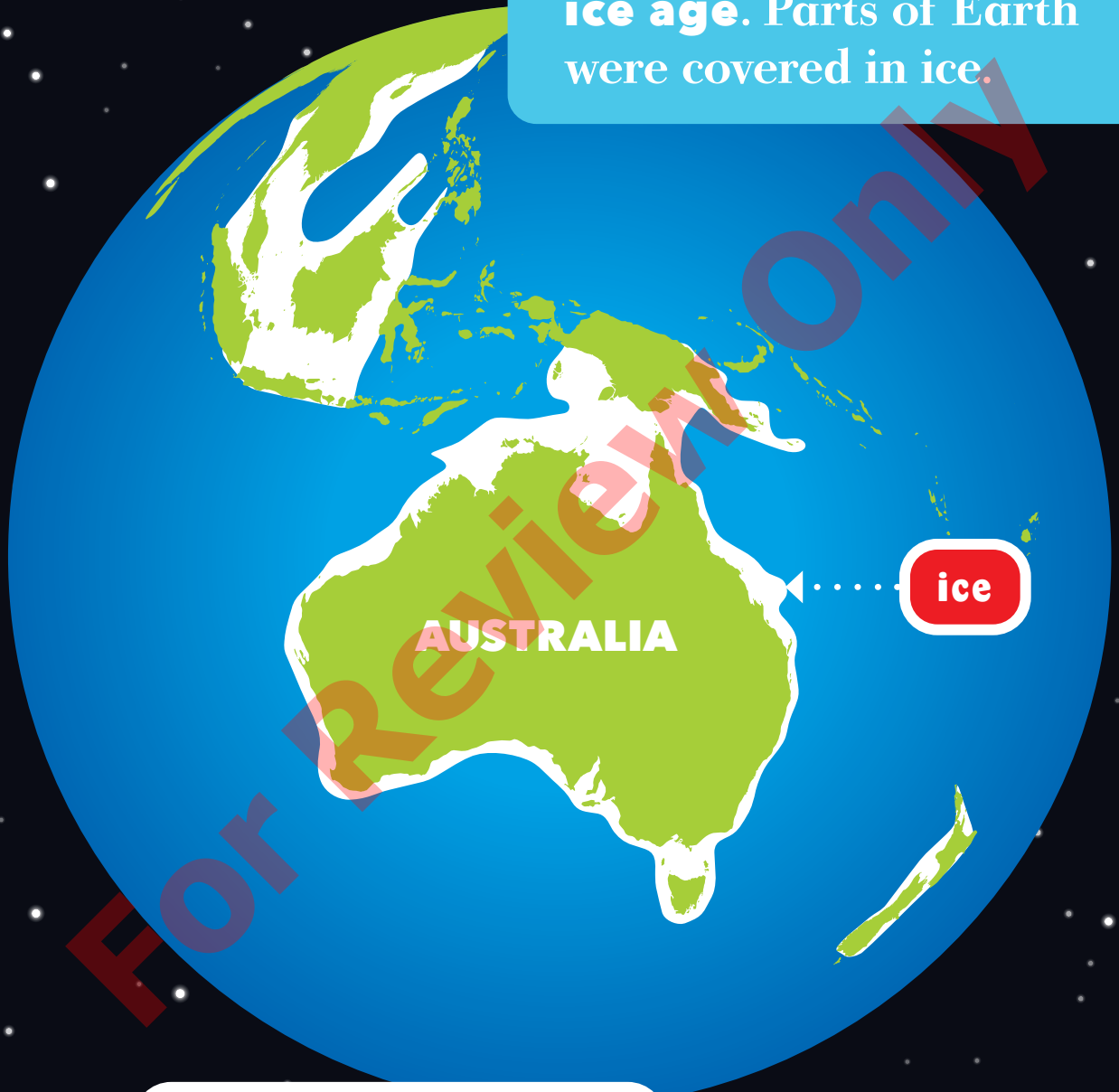
CHAPTER 2

HOW IT FORMED

The Great Barrier Reef was not always here. About 20,000 years ago, this area was covered in forests.



This was during an **ice age**. Parts of Earth were covered in ice.



Earth 20,000 years ago