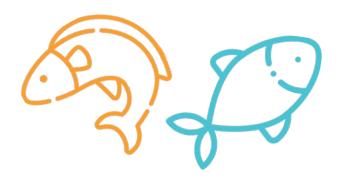
## RESPECT FOR FISH DAY

## **Fish and Coral Reef Facts**

- Fish have feelings, sing, make plans, and even recognize human faces.
- Fish who live on coral reefs can live up to 40 years.
- Coral reefs provide critical habitat to 25% of marine species.
- Reef residents eat the algae growing on the coral, maintaining the reef's balance that creates 50% of the earth's oxygen.







## **Aquarium Trade Impacts**

- The global aquarium trade is stripping reefs bare for hobby tanks in Hawaii, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, Africa, and the Virgin Islands.
- → 27 million fish are in the aquarium pipeline at this moment that's almost as many seconds as there are in an entire year!
- "Net caught" reef animals are starved, have their bladders pierced with a needle and fins chopped with scissors. They are sent by plane to aquarium suppliers in plastic bags. Many die en route or after 6 months of captivity.
- Fish can be stunned with dynamite or cyanide which destroys coral.
- Wild fish born in the huge ocean must endlessly swim around in a few inches of water in pet tanks or bowls.
- 30% of the world's coral reefs died in the last 50 years, and another 30% suffered severe damage.
- 3 in 5 of all remaining reefs could die in the next 25 years.



