WHY WE DON’T FEED FISH?

1. Divers or snorkelers use bread/rice/food scraps to feed fish.
2. Reef fish rush to the diver/snorkeler leaving their territory and nests vulnerable to predators.
3. Feeding causes unnatural group predatory behaviour in normally solitary species making unguarded nests vulnerable.
4. Fish that normally eat algae are now being fed by humans. This may allow algae to grow and smother coral.
5. Normally, whilst grazing upon algae, fish accidentally eat the eggs of coral predators like crown-of-thorns seastars. Feeding stops this grazing and allows predator populations to increase and damage the reef.

Most marine animals have a very specific diet, and a very specific range of digestive bacteria. Being fed the wrong food can lead to the wrong type of bacteria to become dominant in their stomachs and they can no longer digest their natural food and could starve to death.

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