



## ***In Class Exercises (ICE)***



***Figure 1 shows a colony of coral commonly known as green star polyps. (Scientific name: Clavularia viridus.)***

***This coral grows rapidly when conditions are favorable, quickly covering all available space on the reef.***

Figure 1: A colony of green star polyps ( *Clavularia viridus* ).

- When the star polyps encounter another coral, their growth is restricted, as other corals sting<sup>1</sup> the star polyps. What pattern of growth would you expect a colony of green star polyps to exhibit? What similarities exist between this situation and the spread of a disease that you considered earlier?***

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<sup>1</sup> Many corals produce tentacles covered in stinging cells (called sweeper tentacles) to deter other corals from growing too close. (Source: [www.reeftank.com](http://www.reeftank.com))