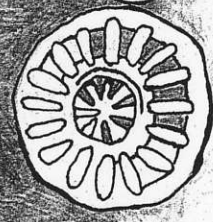


But did you know that some CO₂ dissolves in the ocean?

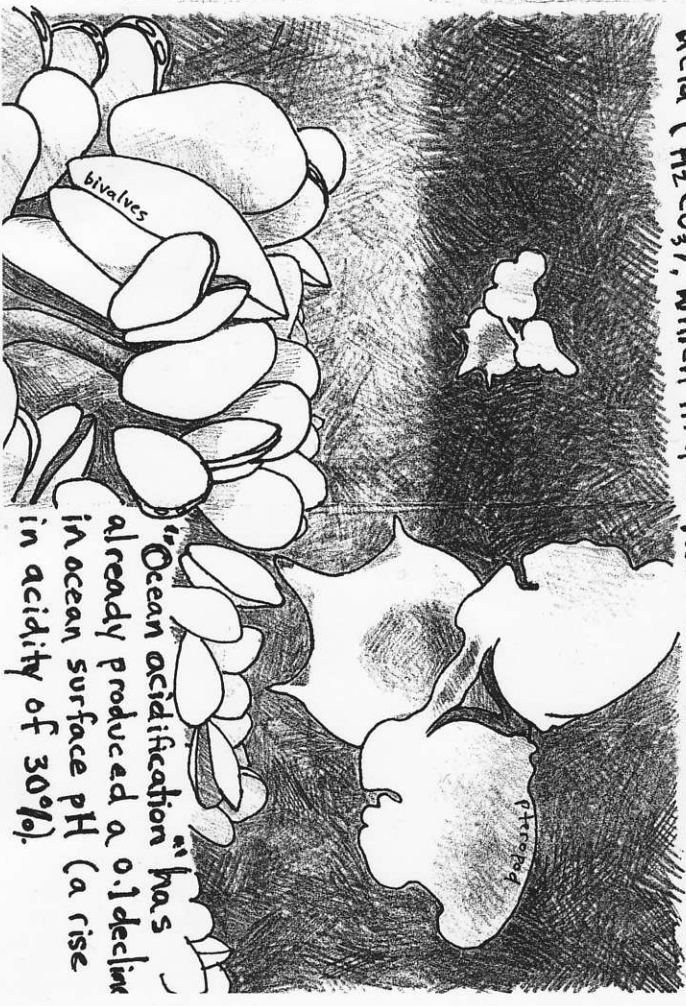
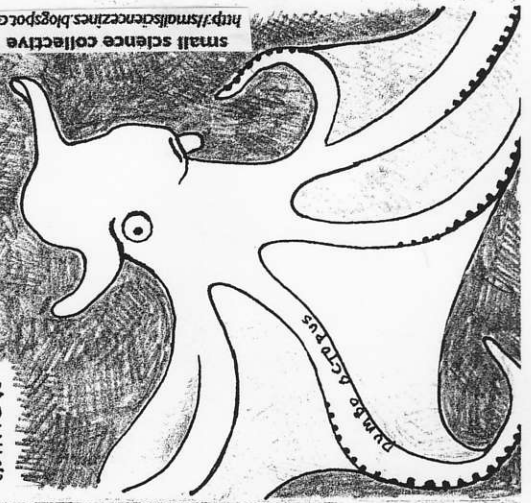
You might already know that the greenhouse gas, carbon dioxide (CO₂), causes global warming.

ocean ACIDification



<http://smallsciencezines.blogspot.com>

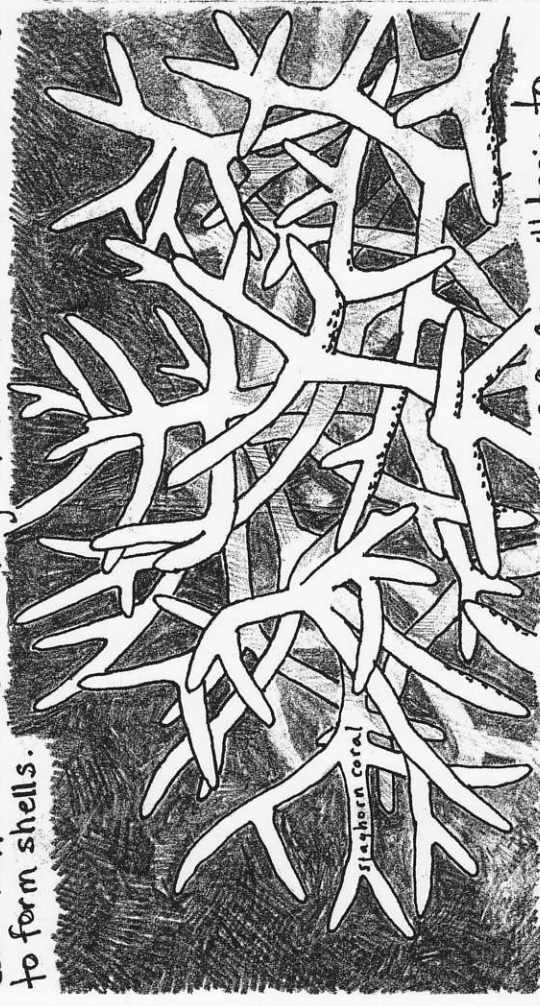
The consequences are horrific: millions of species with CaCO₃ shells or skeletons, and the species who depend on those species are predicted to go extinct.



"Ocean acidification" has already produced a 0.1 decline in ocean surface pH (a rise in acidity of 30%).

When CO₂ dissolves in the ocean, it produces Carbonic acid (H₂CO₃), which makes the ocean more acidic.

This rise in acidity reduces the number of calcium carbonate (CaCO₃) building blocks available for animals to form shells.



Eventually any animal shell made of CaCO₃ will begin to dissolve. Climate scientists predict that the waters around Antarctica will be too acidic to support corals and pteropods by the end of this century.