Ocean Acidification

**Vocabulary**

**Fossil fuels:** Fossil fuels are natural fuels that come from the ground. They are the chemical remains of plants and animals that died millions of years ago. Some examples of fossil fuels are coal, oil and gas.

**Carbon dioxide:** Carbon dioxide is a molecule made of two oxygen atoms and a carbon atom. Carbon dioxide makes up a small amount of the air we breathe but has a significant impact on the earth’s climate. The amount of carbon dioxide in the air has increased significantly in the last 200 years as humans have burned fossil fuels for energy.

**Acid:** An acid is a type of substance with specific chemical properties. Highly acidic substances dissolve or burn things they touch.

**Carbonic acid:** Carbonic acid is specific type of acid created when carbon dioxide dissolves in gas.

**pH test:** A pH test is used the measure how much a substance is like an acid. In other words, it measure the acidity. The test is a chemical reaction which changes the color of the substance depending on its acidity. The color is assigned a number. For most substances, the pH value is between 0 and 14.

**Questions**

1. The pH of water is 7. Looking at the pH test color card, what color will water turn after the test?
2. Lower pH values mean that a substance is more acidic. Looking at the pH test card, what color will carbonic acid turn after the test?