Coral and ivory stand as two of nature's most fascinating creations, each with a rich history and unique significance across various cultures and epochs. Coral, derived from the deep sea's living organisms, is revered not just for its vibrant hues ranging from soft pink to deep red but also for its believed protective and healing properties. Ivory, on the other hand, comes from the tusks and teeth of animals, primarily elephants, and has been used historically in art, jewelry, and ceremonial objects, symbolizing status and wealth. However, given the ethical considerations and strict regulations surrounding ivory, its identification and certification become crucial.

At STEMart, we specialize in the responsible and accurate identification of coral and ivory, utilizing ethical practices and ensuring compliance with international conservation laws. Our services aim to provide our clients with certainty regarding their items' authenticity, origin, and legal status.

## **Test Samples**

Coral jewelry, carvings, and raw specimens from different species and origins.

Ivory objects, carvings, and jewelry pieces, both antique and modern.

Items made from mammoth ivory, which is legal and distinguishable from elephant ivory.

## **Testing Services**

- Visual Inspection: Evaluating the material's color, texture, and physical characteristics to differentiate between types of coral and to identify ivory and its alternatives.
- Spectroscopic Analysis: This non-destructive method helps in identifying the organic compounds specific to coral and ivory, ensuring their authenticity.
- DNA Testing: Particularly for ivory, DNA testing can determine the species of origin, crucial for compliance with CITES regulations and for conservation efforts.
- Radiocarbon Dating: This method is used to verify the age of ivory items, distinguishing between antique (legal) and recent (potentially illegal) ivory, to comply with international laws.
- Microscopic Examination: Analyzing the structure and patterns unique to coral and ivory, such as growth lines in coral and Schreger lines in elephant ivory.

For more information about our <u>coral and ivory identification services</u>, please contact us.