

Name _____

The Sour Side of the Sea: Understanding Ocean Acidification and Its Impact on Marine Life

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What is the primary cause of ocean acidification?
 - a) Natural volcanic activity
 - b) Deforestation
 - c) Overfishing
 - d) Burning of fossil fuels

2. How does ocean acidification affect coral reefs?
 - a) It makes corals grow faster and stronger.
 - b) It increases the number of fish in coral reef ecosystems.
 - c) It weakens corals and makes them more susceptible to disease and bleaching.
 - d) It has no impact on coral reefs.

3. Which marine organisms are particularly vulnerable to ocean acidification due to their reliance on calcium carbonate for shell formation?
 - a) Sharks and dolphins
 - b) Shellfish and mollusks
 - c) Plankton and krill
 - d) Jellyfish and sea anemones

4. What role does carbon dioxide (CO₂) play in the process of ocean acidification?
 - a) CO₂ reduces ocean temperatures.
 - b) CO₂ helps marine life thrive in acidic conditions.
 - c) CO₂ from the atmosphere dissolves in seawater and forms carbonic acid, lowering the ocean's pH.
 - d) CO₂ has no connection to ocean acidification.

5. How can combating ocean acidification benefit both the ocean and the environment?
 - a) By reducing the acidity of the ocean and making it safer for swimming
 - b) By increasing the diversity of marine species
 - c) By protecting coral reefs and the entire marine food web
 - d) By creating more opportunities for recreational fishing

