

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### What Are the Threats to Barracudas?

#### Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Young barracudas are more vulnerable because they are smaller, weaker, and less experienced at avoiding predators.
2. Protecting coral reefs benefits barracudas by preserving their habitats for hunting and shelter.
3. If overfishing continued, barracuda populations could decline, disrupting ocean ecosystems and reducing their role as top predators.
4. A protection plan could include reducing overfishing, creating marine protected areas, restoring coral reefs, and raising awareness about their importance in the ecosystem.