

Name _____

Do Barracudas Form Relationships with Other Species?

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Barracudas allow cleaner fish to get close because the cleaner fish help them by removing harmful parasites, which keeps them healthy.
2. Parasites might weaken a barracuda, making it harder for the fish to hunt, escape predators, or stay healthy.
3. If smaller fish couldn't hide near barracudas, they might be eaten by predators more often, reducing their population.
4. These relationships show that predators like barracudas help maintain the balance of the ecosystem by supporting other species and controlling populations.