

Name _____

Do Catfish Form Relationships with Other Species?

Short Answer Key

1. Mutualism is a relationship where both species benefit. Catfish benefit from mutualism when cleaner fish or shrimp remove parasites or algae from their bodies, keeping them healthy.
2. Parasites take nutrients from the catfish, making it weaker and more vulnerable to predators or disease.
3. An example of commensalism is when smaller fish eat food stirred up by a catfish, benefiting the smaller fish without affecting the catfish.
4. Smaller fish follow behind catfish to eat tiny creatures uncovered in the sediment stirred up by the catfish's movements.
5. Catfish benefit from living near certain plants because the plants provide hiding places, helping them avoid predators.