

Name _____

Diving into Waterborne Diseases: Risks in Regions with Limited Clean Water Access

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Possible answer: Waterborne diseases can have devastating effects on communities, leading to increased illness, healthcare expenses, and mortality rates. Socially, they can disrupt daily life and limit educational and economic opportunities. Economically, communities may face productivity losses due to illness and healthcare costs, exacerbating poverty.
2. Possible answer: Steps may include assessing the community's water needs, building or repairing water infrastructure, implementing water treatment methods, educating the community about hygiene and sanitation, and involving locals in project management and maintenance.
3. Possible answer: Education empowers communities to take proactive measures in preventing waterborne diseases. Effective programs include teaching proper handwashing, safe water storage, and waste disposal. Organizations like UNICEF and local NGOs often run successful educational initiatives.
4. Possible answer: Governments and international organizations have a crucial role in addressing the water crisis and preventing waterborne diseases. They should prioritize building water infrastructure, promoting sanitation, and funding initiatives that ensure clean water access for all, particularly in underserved areas. Collaboration and long-term support are essential to achieving sustainable solutions.

