

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## The Great Pacific Garbage Patch: A Floating Pollution Challenge

### Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Cleaning up and mitigating the Great Pacific Garbage Patch pose challenges due to its vast size and dispersed debris. Innovations such as advanced cleanup technologies, stricter waste disposal regulations, and public awareness campaigns can be effective in addressing this issue.
2. Individuals and communities can reduce plastic waste and prevent it from entering the ocean by practicing responsible consumption, recycling, using reusable materials, supporting policies to reduce single-use plastics, and participating in coastal cleanup efforts.
3. Art, like Chris Jordan's, serves as a powerful tool for raising awareness about environmental issues by evoking emotions, sparking conversations, and motivating individuals and communities to take action. Jordan's work visually represents the problem's magnitude and prompts viewers to reflect on their own contributions to plastic pollution.
4. The long-term consequences of plastic pollution in the world's oceans may include further harm to marine ecosystems, negative impacts on human health through contaminated seafood, and economic losses in industries reliant on healthy oceans. Future generations may inherit a planet with degraded oceans, emphasizing the urgency of addressing this issue.

