

Name _____

Dive into the Wonders of the Great Barrier Reef

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. The Great Barrier Reef is special and unique because it is the world's largest coral reef system, home to a wide variety of marine life, and visible from space.
2. Answers may vary, but students could choose to explore colorful coral formations, swim with sea turtles, or observe different species of fish.
3. Colorful coral formations are formed in the reef through a slow process where tiny coral polyps build hard skeletons over time.
4. It's important to protect the Great Barrier Reef and its marine life because it is a valuable ecosystem that provides habitat for many species, supports tourism, and helps maintain the balance of the ocean's health.

