

Name _____

Threats and Predators of the Hippopotamus

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Pollution harms the water hippos rely on and affects the plants they eat, reducing food quality.
2. Hippos stay in water to keep cool, protect their skin, and avoid sunburn.
3. Educating people helps them understand why hippos are important, which can discourage poaching.
4. If hippos disappeared, the ecosystem would lose an important grazer, which could lead to overgrown plants and habitat imbalance.

