

Name _____

Lionfish: Stripes, Spines, and Stunning Colors

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Lionfish are recognizable because of their bold stripes, flowing fins, and unique appearance, making them stand out from other fish.
2. The venomous spines likely make predators avoid the lionfish because the sting is painful and can cause harm.
3. Observing a lionfish, I would focus on its patterns, fins, and how it moves because these features show how it hunts and protects itself.
4. Scientists find lionfish fascinating because they are beautiful, effective hunters, and important for understanding how invasive species affect ecosystems.

