

Name _____

The Life Cycle of a Lionfish

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Releasing thousands of eggs increases the chances that some will survive, even if many are eaten by predators or don't hatch.
2. During the larval stage, lionfish drift with ocean currents, which can carry them to new areas, helping them spread.
3. Juvenile lionfish face challenges like finding food, avoiding predators, and competing with other fish for resources.
4. The lionfish's life cycle, with rapid growth and frequent reproduction, allows them to increase their population quickly and dominate new ecosystems.