

Name _____

Beneath the Waves: Exploring the Marvels of the Marine Biome

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Marine biodiversity is essential for maintaining healthy ocean ecosystems, as each species plays a unique role in the food web and ecosystem dynamics. It provides resilience to environmental changes and supports ecosystem services like nutrient cycling and waste decomposition.
2. Pollution from sources like plastic waste, oil spills, and chemical runoff harms marine habitats and threatens the health of marine organisms. Overfishing depletes fish populations and disrupts marine food webs, leading to imbalances in ecosystem structure and function.
3. Conservation strategies like marine protected areas, sustainable fishing practices, and reducing single-use plastic consumption can help protect marine ecosystems from degradation and preserve biodiversity.
4. Individuals and communities can contribute to marine conservation efforts by reducing their carbon footprint, participating in beach clean-up activities, supporting organizations that promote marine conservation, and advocating for policies that protect marine habitats.

