

Name _____

Silent Victims: The Impact of Water Pollution on Marine Life

Short Answer Key

1. Possible answers include ingestion by marine animals and entanglement in plastic debris.
2. Chemical contaminants accumulate in marine organisms through ingestion or absorption, causing health problems such as reproductive issues and compromised immune systems.
3. Habitat destruction can lead to loss of critical habitat for marine species, affecting their ability to find food, reproduce, and seek shelter.
4. Eutrophication occurs when excessive nutrients fuel algal blooms, which consume oxygen when they decompose, creating dead zones in the ocean.
5. Overfishing and illegal fishing practices deplete fish stocks, disrupt marine food chains, and harm non-target species.

