

Name _____

Plastic Seas and Vanishing Coral: Human Impact on Ocean Pollution and Marine Life

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. The long-term consequences of plastic pollution in our oceans include the destruction of marine ecosystems, harm to human health through contaminated seafood, and the potential disruption of the global food chain. Future generations may inherit a damaged and imbalanced ocean environment if action is not taken.
2. Individuals and communities can combat ocean pollution by reducing single-use plastic consumption, participating in beach cleanups, supporting legislation to limit plastic production, and promoting sustainable fishing practices. Education and awareness campaigns also play a vital role in encouraging responsible behavior.
3. Artists like Chris Jordan are essential in advocating for environmental conservation by using their creativity to engage and inspire the public. Their artwork can bridge the gap between scientific data and public understanding, motivating individuals to take action and support policies that protect our oceans.
4. Industries and governments have a responsibility to address ocean pollution through regulations, sustainable practices, and investments in research and cleanup efforts. Collaborative initiatives involving both public and private sectors are crucial to mitigating the impact of human activities on the oceans and marine life.

