

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## The Mighty Pacific Ocean: A World of Wonders

### Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. The Pacific Ocean is located between the continents of Asia and Australia to the west and the Americas to the east. It stretches from the Arctic Ocean in the north to the Southern Ocean in the south.
2. Coral reefs in the Pacific Ocean are considered biodiversity hotspots because they host a wide variety of marine species, including colorful fish, coral species, and unique organisms not found elsewhere.
3. The Pacific Ocean influences climate and weather by affecting ocean currents and temperature patterns, which in turn impact weather conditions on the surrounding land areas.
4. Preserving and protecting the Pacific Ocean is essential because it is vital for marine life, global climate regulation, and human livelihoods. Ensuring its health is crucial for the well-being of future generations.

