

Name _____

Tiny Heroes of the Sea: The Role of Phytoplankton in Marine Ecosystems and Carbon Cycling

Short Answer

1. Explain the process of photosynthesis in phytoplankton and its importance in the marine ecosystem.
2. Describe the role of phytoplankton in marine food webs and provide an example of a marine organism that depends on them for food.
3. How do phytoplankton contribute to regulating Earth's carbon dioxide levels, and what is the biological pump?
4. What are some environmental challenges that phytoplankton face, and why is monitoring their populations important?
5. Reflect on the importance of phytoplankton in maintaining the balance of marine ecosystems and their impact on global carbon cycling.

