

Name _____

The Ripple Effect: How Water Quality Impacts Public Health

Short Answer Key

1. Possible answer: Contaminated water sources can lead to malnutrition, stunted growth, and a higher risk of waterborne diseases in children.
2. Possible answer: Women and girls often spend hours collecting water, limiting their access to education and economic opportunities. They may also face physical strain and health risks.
3. Possible answer: Cholera is mentioned in the passage. Its symptoms include severe diarrhea, vomiting, and dehydration, which can be life-threatening if not treated promptly.
4. Possible answer: Poor water quality leads to an increase in waterborne diseases, overwhelming healthcare facilities with patients. This diverts resources from other essential healthcare services and strains the healthcare system.
5. Possible answer: Possible solutions include building proper water infrastructure, providing water treatment and purification methods, promoting hygiene and sanitation practices, and supporting community-based initiatives to ensure access to clean water.

