

Name _____

Do Sea Turtles Form Relationships with Other Species?

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Mutualism is important because it helps sea turtles stay healthy while giving cleaner fish a reliable food source. Both species benefit and support each other.
2. Over time, parasites can weaken sea turtles by making them sick, reducing their energy, and even affecting their ability to survive.
3. Studying these relationships helps scientists understand how different species depend on each other, which can guide conservation efforts.
4. I would look for behaviors like cleaner fish eating algae or parasites (mutualism), barnacles attached to shells without affecting the turtle (commensalism), and signs of disease or weakness caused by parasites (parasitism).

