

Name _____

Danger in the Deep: Predators Threatening Penguins

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Leopard seals hunt penguins by lurking beneath the water's surface and ambushing them when they dive in, using their powerful jaws and teeth to catch and devour them.
2. One strategy that penguins use to protect themselves and their offspring from predators is forming tight-knit colonies, which provides safety in numbers and makes it harder for predators to single out individual birds or chicks.
3. Skuas and giant petrels are considered threats to penguins because they prey on vulnerable chicks and eggs, taking advantage of their vulnerability on land.
4. Penguins have adaptations such as streamlined bodies for efficient swimming, keen senses for detecting predators, and the ability to form tight-knit colonies for safety, all of which help them evade predators and survive in their environment.

