

Name _____

The Magical World of Islands: How Are They Formed?

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Coral atolls are important marine ecosystems and provide habitats for a wide variety of marine life. However, they are vulnerable to rising sea levels, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching caused by climate change, which threatens their existence.
2. Tectonic plate boundaries are dynamic zones where plates collide, separate, or slide past each other. These movements can lead to the formation of mountains, volcanoes, and rift valleys, all of which shape the Earth's surface.
3. Artificial islands can have both positive and negative impacts. They may provide additional space for housing and development but can also disrupt natural coastal processes and ecosystems. For example, the construction of artificial islands can affect water circulation and wildlife habitats.
4. Islands have unique cultural significance in different parts of the world. They often influence the traditions, lifestyles, and livelihoods of their inhabitants. For example, islands may have distinct languages, cuisines, and art forms that reflect their isolation and natural surroundings.

