

Name _____

Date _____

Generalizations 1

Sometimes when you read, you are given ideas about a group of people, animals, or things.

How to Generalize:

Use what you have read and what you already know to make a statement about them as a group. This statement might tell how they are alike or mostly alike in some way.

Benefit: Making statements like this can help you understand more about what you read. It can also help you explain what you read to someone else.

Ocean Wonders

When you think of the ocean, you might imagine endless waves, sandy beaches, and colorful fish swimming near coral reefs. But the ocean is home to much more than that. Beneath the surface lies an extraordinary world filled with fascinating creatures. For example, jellyfish, some of the oldest living animals on Earth, have existed for over 500 million years. They drift through the water with their translucent bodies, looking like living works of art. Then there's the giant squid, a deep-sea creature that can grow up to 40 feet long. These mysterious animals are rarely seen by humans, but they remind us of how vast and unexplored the ocean truly is.

The ocean is not just a place for incredible animals; it also plays a vital role in keeping our planet healthy. Oceans produce over half of the oxygen we breathe, thanks to tiny organisms called phytoplankton. These

Name _____

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Generalizations 2

microscopic plants use sunlight and carbon dioxide to create oxygen during a process called photosynthesis. The ocean also absorbs a large amount of heat and carbon dioxide, helping to regulate Earth's temperature and slow down climate change. Without the ocean's contributions, life on Earth would look very different.

Unfortunately, the ocean faces many threats today. Pollution, overfishing, and climate change have all caused serious harm to marine ecosystems. Plastic waste, for example, can take hundreds of years to break down, and it often ends up in the stomachs of sea creatures like turtles and whales. Rising temperatures are also affecting coral reefs, causing them to bleach and die. Scientists and activists are working hard to protect the ocean by creating marine conservation areas, reducing pollution, and encouraging sustainable fishing practices. But saving the ocean requires everyone's help, and even small changes, like using less plastic, can make a big difference.

Fill in the circle next to each generalization that is supported by the passage.

- ☐ Oceans are home to a wide variety of unique and fascinating creatures.
- ☐ All ocean animals live in coral reefs.
- ☐ The ocean plays an important role in supporting life on Earth.
- ☐ Pollution is the only threat to the ocean.

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Generalizations 1 – Answer Key

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