

A Guide to the ReadWorks Question Set (2nd-12th Grade)

Creatures of the Reefs

This text is provided courtesy of OLogy, the American Museum of Natural History's website for kids.

1. The coral reefs in the Bahamas are in great danger. What is the first step in saving them?

A. The first step in saving the reefs is understanding the variety of species that live there.

2. Why might it be important to save the reefs? Support your answer with evidence from the text.

A. Answers may vary, but should be supported by the text. They may reference the importance of the reefs to species that live there and to the economy of the Bahamas.

3. What is the main idea of this text?

A. (Approximately) Scientists are studying the animals and life among the coral reefs in order to figure out how to protect and save them.

4. In the reefs, the numbers of organisms other than mollusks are not healthy. That means there are not as many of them as there should be. What is a cause of these unhealthy numbers?

A. (Approximately) Human activity is a cause of these unhealthy numbers.

5. Explain how humans can affect the health of the reefs. Support your answer with evidence from the text.

A. Answers may vary as long as they are supported by the text. Humans have already had a negative impact on the reefs – they've disrupted the ecosystem through pollution and overfishing. But they can work to protect and conserve the reefs as well in order to improve the health of the reefs.

5. Wildcard

This question can focus on a crucial element of the text that is not solely covered by the main idea/complex inferential questions. For instance, it may address vocabulary-in-context, author's craft, author's purpose, crucial text structure, or an image/visual element. It will be inferential.

All of the questions in this question set focus on important information from the text. They will help you pay attention to the most important parts of the text. And they will show you the kinds of questions you should be asking yourself as you read a text!

2. Explicit OR inferential question

This question is always about something important in the text.

It is sometimes an explicit question, with an answer that is right there in the text.

Sometimes, this question is an inferential question. That means you have to make a connection or draw a conclusion on your own, based on information in the text.

4. Complex inferential question

This question is a complex inferential question. That means you'll have to make connections between information or evidence in the text on your own. Because it's complex, it may be a little harder than some of the other questions in the question set. But the other questions, and the information you had to focus on to answer those questions, may help you answer this one.

1. Explicit Information

This question is an explicit question about something very important to the text. The answer should be right there in the text.

3. Main Idea Question

This question almost always asks you to identify the main idea of the text.

For some literary texts, it may ask you to identify a main theme in the text.