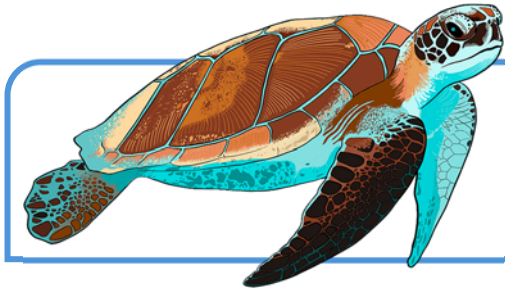


Name _____



Pacific Wonders

Directions: Read the passage carefully. Then answer the questions using complete sentences.

Meet The Pacific

The **Pacific Ocean** is the largest ocean on Earth, and it stretches farther than any other body of water. It covers more area than all the land on Earth combined. If you sailed across it, you would travel thousands of miles before ever reaching the other side.

The Pacific lies between the continents of Asia and Australia on one side and North and South America on the other. Many islands rest within this huge ocean, including the islands of Hawaii. The water in the Pacific can be calm in some places, but in others it is known for powerful waves and deep underwater trenches.

One of the most amazing features of the Pacific is the **Mariana Trench**, the deepest spot in any ocean. Scientists study the Pacific to learn about its plants, animals, and underwater volcanoes. The Pacific plays an important role in weather, trade, and ocean life all around the world.

1. What makes the Pacific Ocean different from other oceans in size?
2. Where is the Pacific Ocean located in relation to major continents?
3. What are two types of places or features you can find in the Pacific?
4. Why do scientists study the Pacific Ocean?
5. In your own words, describe 1 interesting fact you learned from the passage.