

## Underwater Friends

Have you ever heard the story of the clown fish and the anemone? They are two different species that live together and help each other. You might call them underwater best friends.

Clown fish and anemones live in the ocean near Australia. Their habitats are coral reefs. Clown fish are colorful, with orange and white stripes. Anemones are also colorful. They look like underwater flowers.

Anemones have stinging tentacles. The stings don't hurt clown fish. The fish can live inside the anemones and not be bothered.

The tentacles of the anemone protect the clown fish. Predators that eat clown fish will not come near the anemone because they don't want to get stung. Clown fish also get snacks from the anemone's leftovers.

The clown fish help the anemones too. The fish eat bacteria that bother the anemone. The fish also sometimes bring food to the anemone.

The relationship between the clown fish and the anemone is called a mutualistic relationship. Mutualistic means that both of the creatures benefit from their friendship. Clown fish and anemones are awesome BFFs!



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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

1. How does the clown fish help the anemone?
  - a. It eats bacteria that bothers the anemone
  - b. It protects the anemone from predators
  - c. It provides camouflage
  - d. It lives in the coral reef
  
2. How does the anemone help the clown fish?
  - a. It provides camouflage
  - b. It protects the fish from predators
  - c. It eats bacteria that bothers the fish
  - d. It lives in the coral reef
  
3. What do anemones and clown fish have in common?
  - a. They both sting
  - b. They are both orange
  - c. They are both colorful
  - d. They both have scales
  
4. What is one thing that both of the creatures do for each other?
  - a. Provide protection
  - b. Provide shelter
  - c. Provide water
  - d. Provide food

Instructions for teachers:

These questions can be used to assess understanding of the reading passage.

The item in bold is the correct answer for each question.

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