

Name _____

Panthers Science Review 2020-2021

Practicing Skill 13**HOW TO Tell Fact from Opinion**

Read the letter Carmen wrote to her friend about snorkeling in the Great Barrier Reef. Look for facts and opinions as you read. Underline two facts and circle two opinions.

July 25, 2003

Dear Cara,

We are having so much fun here in Australia. Yesterday we rode in a big boat out to the Great Barrier Reef. The reef is off the coast of Australia and is about 1,250 miles long! We went snorkeling in one part of the reef. I wore a mask with a snorkel attached and a life jacket. The snorkel helped me breathe while I swam. The mask allowed me to see everything underwater without getting water in my eyes. The life jacket helped me float. Snorkeling felt like being inside an aquarium. I could see many animals up close. I saw many kinds of colorful fish. I also saw white, yellow, green, and pink corals in many different shapes. I think corals are really pretty. When I was snorkeling, I saw a big reef shark. It swam by me, but it didn't do anything. Sharks are my favorite fish. After a few hours we had to get back into the boat and go back to land. I hated to leave the reef.

See you when we get back,

Carmen

Name _____

Decide which sentences below are facts and which are opinions. Write Fact in front of the sentences that are facts. Write Opinion in front of the sentences that are opinions.

1. _____ Living coral reefs cover 360,000 square miles.
2. _____ Each coral is smaller than a thumbnail.
3. _____ I believe that coral reefs are amazing places.
4. _____ Corals are in the same family as jellyfish and sea anemones.
5. _____ There are at least 1,000 different species of corals.
6. _____ I think that scuba divers should be able to dive anywhere they want.
7. _____ More than three billion people live in coastal areas.
8. _____ Scientists have used compounds from organisms that live in coral reefs to make medicines.
9. _____ People should not build in areas where coral reefs are found.
10. _____ I think that coral reefs are not really in danger.