



Name: _____

Class: _____ Date: _____

Responding Respectfully

An activity of "Overfishing continues to harm the ocean".

Overfishing harms the ocean and hurts the environment. It also affects people who live in coastal villages. Read "Overfishing continues to harm the ocean" (pages 8–9, *What's Up* March 2026) to learn more.

1. Imagine that you are part of the "Pristine Seas" project that helps to create marine-protected areas around the world. These areas are closed to fishing. Big fishing companies are not happy about this. They come forward to speak up. Write your response to each company. Use these tips ↓ and the information in the *What's Up* story to back up your responses.

Tips for responding respectfully and persuasively:

- Use polite and respectful words.
- Explain gently how their actions cause harm.
- Express empathy for their concerns.
- Suggest alternative ways to solve their problems.

Fishing Company A: *"There are plenty of fish in the ocean and we will fish in only a small part of the protected area. You should practice some flexibility."*

Response:

Fishing Company B: *"Please let us continue fishing in the protected area. Fishing is our livelihood and we have many employees and families to provide for."*

Response:

Fishing Company C: *"We promise to limit the amounts of fish we catch daily in the protected area."*

Response:

2. In small groups, examine all your responses and work together to develop a final version for each company.
3. Present your group's responses to the class in the form of a skit.