

## Sponge Reading

Go to the following link and read the article titled “Absorbs pollution like a sponge” and **answer the questions below in full sentences.**

[http://www.imr.no/nyhetsarkiv/2012/november/suger\\_til\\_seg\\_forurensing\\_so\\_m\\_en\\_svamp/en](http://www.imr.no/nyhetsarkiv/2012/november/suger_til_seg_forurensing_so_m_en_svamp/en)

1. What percentage of “benthic faunal biomass” do sponges make up? What do scientists mean by this phrase?
2. How much water can a sponge filter per kilo of tissue per day?
3. Are sponges good at filtration? How can you tell?
4. What would the impact be if there were no sponges?
5. How many tonnes (2,204 lbs) of fluids are released annually from oil drilling?
6. Briefly list the process in which a marine biologist collects sponge samples, including necessary precautions. Bullet points are fine.
7. What happens to a sponge when it becomes stressed?
8. If you were part of the Norwegian version of the National Science Foundation, would you support independent studies on all 250 species of sponges? Defend your reasoning and discuss how much money/time you would allot for the grant(s).
9. In one sentence, what was the purpose of the study you read about?
10. Write down 2-3 questions you have after reading this article about sponges. Look up the answer to these questions using reliable sources and answer them on this sheet of paper.