

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Do Aardvarks Form Relationships with Other Species?

### Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Aardvarks influence other species by creating shelters and exposing insects for insect-eating birds.
2. Commensalism allows one species to benefit without harming another, helping keep ecosystems balanced.
3. Without aardvarks, many animals might lose their shelters, and insect populations could grow unchecked.
4. Mutualism benefits both species (like animals using aardvark burrows), parasitism benefits one and harms the other (ticks on aardvarks), and commensalism benefits one without affecting the other (birds eating insects while the aardvark digs).

