

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## China's Diverse Ecosystems: Exploring Animal and Plant Life

### Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Biodiversity is crucial for maintaining ecosystem health and balance. It contributes to ecosystem resilience, provides resources for human livelihoods, and supports food security. In China, diverse ecosystems like the Himalayas and the Yangtze River Basin are examples of how biodiversity contributes to these functions.
2. Studying the snow leopard in the Himalayas presents challenges such as extreme altitudes and harsh weather conditions. However, it also offers the reward of contributing to the conservation of this endangered species and preserving the unique biodiversity of the region.
3. The giant panda is a cultural symbol of China and serves as a flagship species for global conservation efforts. Its importance lies in raising awareness about endangered species and habitat conservation. Through breeding programs and habitat preservation, China and the world aim to protect this iconic species.
4. Pollution and habitat destruction have detrimental effects on China's plant and animal life. To contribute to conservation efforts, individuals and communities can reduce pollution, support sustainable practices, and participate in conservation initiatives. Education and advocacy are also key in raising awareness and driving change.

