

Name _____

Mexico's Biodiversity: A Treasure Trove of Animal and Plant Life

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Preserving Mexico's biodiversity is crucial to maintaining ecological balance and safeguarding unique species. Additionally, it is essential for cultural and indigenous communities, as many traditions and beliefs are intertwined with the natural world.
2. Answers will vary, but students can describe their encounters with colorful birds, large cats like jaguars, and the vibrant flora of the rainforest, as well as the sounds, smells, and sensations of being in such an environment.
3. Plants and animals in Mexico's deserts face challenges related to extreme temperatures and scarce water resources, while those in rainforests contend with competition for resources and threats from deforestation. Both adapt in different ways to survive.
4. Conservation efforts can include establishing marine protected areas, promoting sustainable fishing practices, reducing pollution, and raising awareness about the importance of preserving marine ecosystems. This is crucial to protect marine life and the livelihoods of coastal communities.

