

Name _____

What's on the Beetle Menu?

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Example Response: As a carnivorous beetle, I would use my strong mandibles to catch small insects. I might hide and wait for prey to come close, or I could chase them quickly.
2. Example Response: Herbivorous beetles eat plants, carnivorous beetles hunt small insects, and omnivorous beetles eat a mix of plants, fungi, and insects. Each type has its own way of finding food.
3. Example Response: Beetles can eat many types of food because they have adapted to live in different environments, from forests to deserts. Some eat plants, while others hunt or recycle waste.
4. Example Response: If beetles disappeared, plants might overgrow, pests could destroy crops, and waste would pile up. Ecosystems would become unbalanced without beetles to help.

