

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## The Incredible Life Cycle of a Bumblebee

### Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Each stage of the bumblebee's life cycle is important because it ensures the colony grows, gathers food, and creates new queens and drones to start the next generation.
2. The queen bumblebee lays eggs and collects food for the larvae. She focuses on reproduction while workers handle other tasks.
3. In the summer, I would expect to see worker bees collecting nectar and pollen, caring for larvae, and keeping the nest clean.
4. Hibernation allows the queen to conserve energy and survive the cold months, so she can start a new colony in the spring.

