

Name _____

Caterpillars and Their Curious Connections

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Example: Mutualism is important because it shows how two species can help each other survive, like ants protecting caterpillars while getting food in return.
2. Example: Parasitism helps control caterpillar populations, which prevents plants from being eaten too much and keeps ecosystems balanced.
3. Example: As a caterpillar, I would feel safe knowing the ants are protecting me from predators, but I'd also have to work hard to make enough honeydew for them.
4. Example: Caterpillars' relationships show us that nature is full of connections where plants and animals depend on each other for survival.

