

Name _____

Cockroaches and Their Surprising Relationships

Short Answer Key

1. Mutualism is a relationship where both species benefit.
Cockroaches help bacteria by providing food and a safe home, and the bacteria help cockroaches digest tough materials.
2. Cockroaches living near humans and eating crumbs is an example of commensalism.
3. Wasps harm cockroaches by laying eggs on or inside them, and the wasp larvae feed on the cockroach.
4. Cockroaches are important because they connect with many species, recycle nutrients, and help ecosystems stay balanced.
5. Cockroaches might spread worms or harmful bacteria to other animals.

