

Name _____

Cricket: Tiny Heroes of the Ecosystem

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Crickets are important to the food chain because they provide food for many predators, keeping ecosystems balanced.
2. Without crickets, pests like aphids might overpopulate, soil might become less fertile, and animals that eat crickets could struggle to find food.
3. Crickets eat pests like aphids, which helps protect plants and prevent overpopulation of these smaller insects.
4. It's important for all creatures to have a role in the ecosystem because every living thing contributes to the balance of nature, no matter how small.

