

Name _____

Crickets and Their Relationships in Nature

Short Answer Key

1. Mutualism is a relationship where both species benefit. Crickets benefit from fungi because the fungi break down plants into food crickets can eat more easily.
2. In commensalism, mites ride on crickets to reach new places. The mites benefit, but the cricket is not harmed.
3. When a parasitic wasp lays eggs on a cricket, the eggs hatch, and the young wasps feed on the cricket, harming or killing it.
4. Crickets spread fungal spores by moving through the environment after eating decaying plant material containing spores.
5. Crickets protect themselves from parasites by grooming their bodies to remove harmful creatures.

