

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## What Does a Panda Eat?

### Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. A panda's diet shows its ability to adapt because it has evolved special teeth, jaws, and a thumb-like bone to eat bamboo, even though it is part of the bear family.
2. Pandas mostly eat bamboo because it is abundant in their habitat and provides most of the energy they need, even though it's low in nutrients.
3. The loss of bamboo forests might affect other animals that rely on bamboo for food or shelter, such as certain insects or birds.
4. People can help protect bamboo forests by stopping deforestation, planting new bamboo, and creating nature reserves for pandas.

