

Name _____

What Role Does a Panda Play in the Ecosystem?

Short Answer Key

1. Pandas help new bamboo plants grow by breaking stalks and scattering seeds while eating.
2. Animals like birds, insects, and small mammals benefit from healthy bamboo forests.
3. Pandas are called an "umbrella species" because protecting them helps many other species in their habitat.
4. A panda's waste adds nutrients to the soil, helping plants grow stronger.
5. If pandas disappeared, bamboo forests might become unhealthy, affecting many animals that rely on them for food and shelter.

