

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Fungi: Nature's Ecosystem Engineers

### Short Answer Key

1. One of the most important roles fungi play in ecosystems is decomposition.
2. A mycorrhizal association is a partnership between fungi and plants.
3. Fungi contribute to soil formation by binding soil particles together with hyphae.
4. Fungi play a role in nutrient cycling by breaking down organic matter.
5. One ecological relationship fungi have with other organisms is symbiosis, where they form partnerships with plants or animals for mutual benefit.

