

Name _____

Fireflies and Their Friends: Do Lightning Bugs Form Relationships?

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Fireflies likely developed a glowing light to warn predators as a way to protect themselves from being eaten.
2. Parasitic fireflies disrupt the food chain by reducing the number of males in other firefly species, which can affect reproduction.
3. Without fireflies, there would be fewer predators for snails and slugs, which could harm plants and upset ecosystems.
4. Studying fireflies' interactions helps us understand their role in ecosystems and how to protect their habitats and populations.

