Name _____

Unlocking Nature's Toolbox: Exploring Genetic Engineering

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Answers may vary. Example: "Genetic engineering has been used to develop genetically modified crops with traits such as herbicide tolerance and insect resistance, reducing the need for chemical pesticides and promoting sustainable agriculture."
2. It's important for scientists to consider the ethical implications of genetic engineering to ensure that the benefits outweigh the risks and to address concerns about equity, biodiversity, and unintended consequences.
3. As a researcher studying genetic engineering, I would want to investigate questions about the long-term environmental impacts of GMOs, the potential for gene flow between engineered and wild populations, and the development of gene drives for controlling invasive species.
4. Genetic engineering could contribute to environmental conservation efforts by restoring endangered species, cleaning up pollution, and developing sustainable biofuels and biodegradable materials.

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