

Name _____

Do Giraffes Form Relationships with Other Species?

Short Answer Key

1. Mutualism is when both species benefit. Giraffes and oxpecker birds have mutualism because the birds eat parasites from the giraffes' skin.
2. Oxpecker birds help by eating ticks and other pests off giraffes, keeping them healthy.
3. Antelopes stay near giraffes for protection, as giraffes can spot predators from far away.
4. Ticks are parasites because they feed on giraffes' blood, harming the giraffes.
5. Giraffes help balance the ecosystem by eating leaves from tall trees, preventing overgrowth and helping smaller plants grow.

