

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Nutrient Acquisition in Protists: Unlocking Nature's Pantry

### Short Answer Key

1. Amoebas engulf food particles by extending pseudopods to surround and engulf prey.
2. Oxygen is one example of a nutrient obtained through photosynthesis in photosynthetic protists.
3. Saprophytic protists play a crucial role in nutrient cycling by decomposing dead organic matter and releasing nutrients back into the environment.
4. One disease caused by a parasitic protist in humans is malaria, caused by Plasmodium.
5. Photosynthetic protists utilize chloroplasts to capture sunlight and convert it into chemical energy through the process of photosynthesis.

