

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## The Life Cycle of a Praying Mantis

### Short Answer Key

1. The ootheca protects the eggs from predators and harsh weather until they hatch.
2. Nymphs survive by eating small insects and sometimes other nymphs if food is scarce.
3. Molting is when nymphs shed their exoskeletons to grow. It's important because it allows their bodies to get larger.
4. Adult mantises hunt by using their sharp eyesight, camouflage, and powerful front legs to catch prey.
5. The main focus of an adult praying mantis's life is hunting and reproduction.

