

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Praying Mantises and Their Relationships with Other Species

### Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Controlling pest populations is important because it prevents insects from destroying plants and helps maintain balance in the ecosystem.
2. A parasitic relationship could weaken or kill a mantis, reducing its ability to hunt and reproduce.
3. In a garden, mantises might hunt pests while spiders or other insects benefit from leftover food scraps. This shows how species interact indirectly.
4. Mantises are solitary because their hunting style and survival strategies rely on stealth and independence rather than teamwork.

