

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Decoding Antigens: The Immune System's Recognition System

### Short Answer Key

1. Antigens are molecules found on the surface of cells or pathogens. They serve as unique identifiers for the immune system.
2. Immune cells recognize foreign antigens by their unique identifiers, which signal the presence of an intruder.
3. B lymphocytes respond to antigens by producing antibodies that are specifically tailored to bind to these antigen fragments.
4. T lymphocytes contribute to the immune response against pathogens by recognizing and attacking cells that display foreign antigens on their surface.
5. The ability to distinguish between self and non-self antigens is important for the immune system to prevent autoimmune diseases, where the immune system mistakenly attacks the body's own tissues.

