

Name _____

How Does a Panda Reproduce?

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Pandas reproduce slowly because they have a short mating season, long gestation periods, and their cubs require a lot of care from their mothers.
2. A mother panda's care shows how crucial parental attention is for young animals, especially those born helpless like panda cubs.
3. Panda cubs are born small and helpless because their mothers' bodies are adapted to a low-nutrient bamboo diet, which may limit how much energy they can give to their cubs during pregnancy.
4. People can help panda cubs survive by protecting forests, preventing habitat loss, and supporting programs that monitor and care for pandas in the wild.

