

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Exploring the Hidden World: Where Bacteria Thrive in Nature

### Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Answers may vary but could include: Bacteria help with digestion by breaking down food.
2. Answers may vary but could include: Bacteria contribute to the health of ecosystems by recycling nutrients and decomposing organic matter.
3. Answers may vary but could include: Bacteria are found in almost every habitat on Earth because they are incredibly diverse and adaptable to different environmental conditions.
4. Answers may vary but could include: A symbiotic relationship between bacteria and plants involves bacteria in the roots of certain plants exchanging nutrients for carbon compounds.

