

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## What Does a Worm Eat?

### Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Earthworms are called “nature’s recyclers” because they break down dead plants and organic matter, turning them into nutrients for the soil.
2. Worms’ eating habits help plants grow by enriching the soil with nutrients and improving its structure through their burrowing.
3. Recycling nutrients in the soil ensures that plants have the resources they need to grow, which supports the entire ecosystem.
4. Different worms adapt their diets based on their habitats, such as earthworms eating decaying plants in soil, marine worms feeding on algae in water, and flatworms hunting tiny animals.