

Name _____

The Important Role of Worms in the Ecosystem

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Worms help balance the ecosystem by improving soil health, recycling nutrients, and providing food for other animals in the food chain.
2. Worms are important for plants because they improve soil and provide nutrients, and for animals because they are a key food source.
3. If worms disappeared, soil quality would decline, plants might not grow well, and animals that rely on worms for food could also be affected.
4. Humans can protect worms by reducing pesticide use, planting gardens, and preserving natural habitats where worms can thrive.

