Interactions in Ecosystem

Guiding Questions

DIrections: Answer each of the following three questions. Each answer should be 4-6 sentences long for EACH question, with details from the textbook pages 78-87 to back up your response.

How can resource availability affect interactions between organisms? Resource availability can affect interactions between organisms by competition. Competition is when two organisms eat the same food. If an organism is more successful than others the population will increase. If the organism does not do well the population will decrease. Also organisms that share the same habitat often have adaptations that enable them to reduce competition.

How is population size affected by predation and symbiotic relationships? Predation can affect population size because in predation predators eat the prey. Predator and prey interactions may reduce the number of organisms or eliminate the populations. Symbiotic relationships are any relationship in which two species live closely together. The population size is affected because parasitism can be harmful to the host.

How are patterns of interactions between organisms similar in different ecosystems? Patterns of interactions between organisms are similar in different ecosystems by mutualism, commensalism, and parasitism. Mutualism is a relationship in which both species benefit. Commensalism is a relationship in which one species benefits and the other species is neither helped nor harmed. Parasitism is a relationship that involves one organism living with on, or inside another organism or harming it.