Mount St. Helens– A Story of Succession Questions

Please be thoughtful and write in complete sentences.

1. Did any plants survive the eruption? If so, how did they survive? Some of the plants did survive because the lupines colonize in the deep volcanic ash.
2. What is the name for plants that survive a major disturbance? What was their role in regenerating the disturbed area? The name for plants that survived a major disturbance is lupines. Lupines role in regenerating the disturbed area is enriching the soil with nitrogen and enriching the soil with organic matter.
3. How was the prairie lupine important to the growth of plants on the barren land found after the eruption? They fixed nitrogen in plants affected from the eruption by enriching the soil.
4. What roles did factors such as wind, moisture, and landforms play in succession after the eruption? Wind played an important role by transporting spiders, insects, and seeds.

to the blast zone

1. What roles did factors such as plant and animal interactions play in succession after the eruption? Abiotic factors played succession after the eruption by plant and animal survival and colonization. Wind played succession after the eruption by transporting spiders, insects, and seeds to the blast zone. Plant survivors played succession after the eruption by using rocks, and landscape as “nets that caught windblown seeds.
2. According to your reading of the story, what do you think a “colonizer” is? I think a colonizer is a plant or animal that establishes itself in an area.
3. How has the red alder tree influenced succession? The red alder tree influenced succession by becoming established, influenced succession because they were able to fix nitrogen and improve the fertility of the soil.
4. What do you predict will happen in the blast zone over time? I predict what will happen to the blast zone over time is in time the blast zone will fully regain the life it had lost, but if the mountain were to erupt again it could destroy the newly regained life
5. What might change your prediction? To change my prediction the mountain would not have to erupt again.