

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Exploring Ecology: Understanding Populations and Communities

### Open-Ended Response Questions

1. Explain why studying populations and communities is important in ecology. Provide examples to illustrate your explanation.
2. Describe the population dynamics of a species in response to changes in its habitat. What factors might influence population size, density, and distribution?
3. Discuss the concept of species interactions within a community. How do these interactions shape the structure and function of ecosystems?
4. How might disruptions in populations or communities affect the stability of an ecosystem? Provide possible scenarios to support your answer.

