Question: Is the model pond in our classroom a real ecosystem?

Argument A	Argument B
Our classroom model pond is an ecosystem. Ecosystems have plants and animals. There are tubifex worms, snails, plants, fish and dragonfly nymphs in our pond. Some animals eat plants, some eat other organisms and some eat dead things and waste. All the animals in the pond do different things. We've seen them eating different plants and animals and we read about it. So we know that we have a strong ecosystem in our pond.	**Our classroom model pond is an ecosystem.** For an ecosystem to thrive, it needs to have organisms that have different roles. **For example,** an ecosystem usually has plants in it, and organisms that eat those plants. **In addition,** a healthy ecosystem often has organisms that eat other organisms and organisms that eat dead things and waste. In our model pond ecosystem we have plants called elodea. **We also** have snails and fish that eat the elodea. **We've observed** the snails and fish eating elodea, **and we read** in a book that they eat it as well. **Another organism we have** in our pond are the tubifex worms. These worms live at the bottom of the pond and we've observed them waving their tails in the water. When we read about tubifex worms we found out that they wave their tails so that they can bring dead animal and plant parts and waste down to their mouths. **This means** that the tubifex worms play the role in our ecosystem of eating the dead things and waste**. Finally,** we have dragonfly nymphs. These are very aggressive **predators according to** what we read. **One student in our class** observed the dragonfly nymph leaping out and taking a bite out of a fish in her tank! The fish was bloody and wounded. **It is clear that** the dragonfly nymph is a predator in our ecosystem. **Because we have** enough different organisms that play different roles in the ecosystem I think that our pond is a real ecosystem.