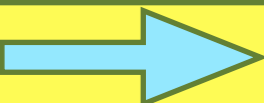
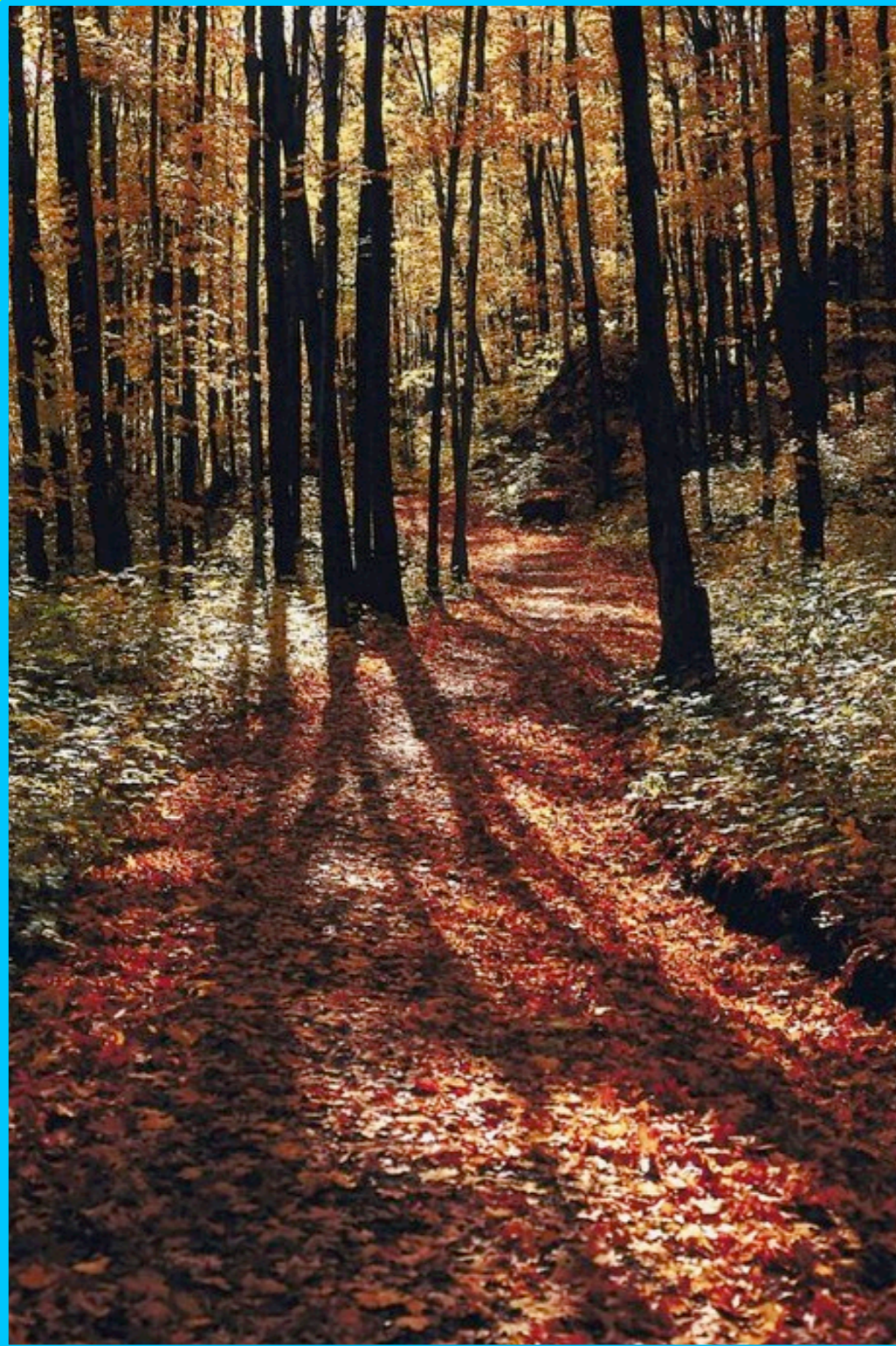


Living in Environments

Learning Objective:

To explore the human impact on habitats and environments.





What would happen if
all the trees in this
forest were cut down?
How would it affect
the animals that live
there?



Changing just one thing in a habitat can have a big impact on all the organisms that live there. If you cut the trees down in a forest, for example, not only would it affect the animals who lived in the trees, but also the insects that depended on the leaf litter to survive, and then the animals who eat those insects. This is because the organisms are all linked through food chains. If you take one organism out of the chain, the whole chain collapses.

Deforestation is a big problem in some parts of the world. Trees are cut down for timber which has a massive impact on the environment.



Humans can have both positive and negative effects on habitats and environments.

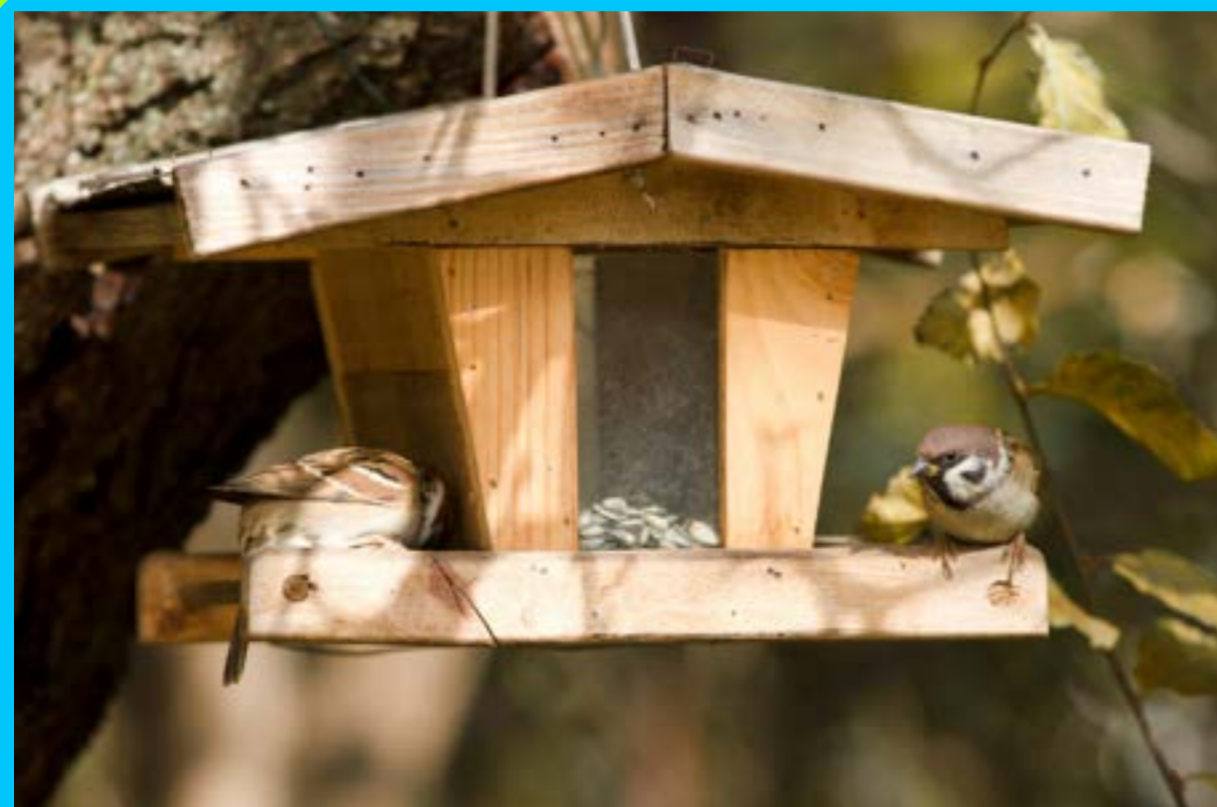
Can you think of some ways in which humans help sustain environments?

Can you think of some ways in which humans destroy environments?



Humans can help sustain environments in many different ways. Some can be simple things like setting up a bird house or pond in a garden.

Humans also set up eco-friendly parks which encourage wildlife, as well as reserves that help protect endangered species and give animals a safe environment to live in.



However, humans can also damage environments by dropping litter, clearing natural areas to make room for houses and towns, cutting down trees for timber, picking wild flowers, and polluting rivers, streams and lakes.

What can **YOU** do to make sure you have a positive impact on local environments and that you don't destroy habitats?

