

# LIVING THINGS and their habitats

**Assessment question:** How can changing habitats pose a threat to plants and animals?

## KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER



### What you should already know...



- All around us, there are some things that are alive, some things that are dead, and some things that have never been alive.
- All living things have certain characteristics that help to keep them alive and healthy.
- Living things live in habitats that suit them, and which provide for their basic needs.
- Living things depend on other living things in order to survive.

### Habitat Changes made by Humans

Animals are often adapted to the habitats that they live in. However, habitats can change over time, which may present animals and plant life with difficulties.

- Harvesting fossil fuels, deforestation, dredging rivers, bottom trawling, pollution, population Destruction, development, litter urbanisation, filling in wetlands and mowing fields.
- Global warming is thought to be impacting on many habitats.

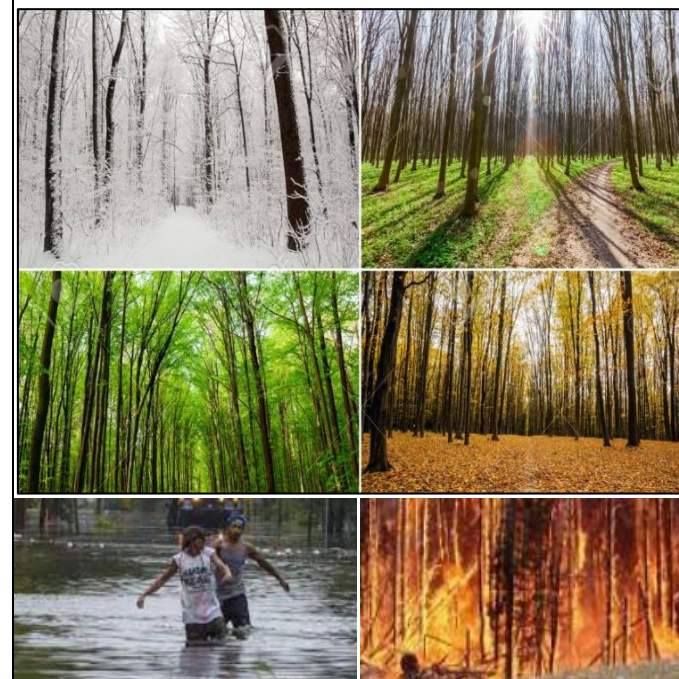


### Key Vocabulary

Human impact, population, destruction, development, litter, deforestation, climate change, nature reserves

Climate change	Climate change describes a change in the average conditions such as temperature and rainfall.
Nature reserves	Nature reserves are areas where wildlife, plants and animals, are protected to allow them to thrive.
Deforestation	Deforestation is the permanent removal of trees to make room for something besides forest.
Air pollution	The presence in or introduction into the air of a substance which has harmful or poisonous effects.
Water pollution	When waste, chemicals, or other particles cause a body of water (i.e. rivers, oceans, lakes) to become harmful to the fish and animals that need the water to survive.

### Natural Habitat Changes



Some of these changes are natural

- The seasons: temperatures rise in the summer and fall in winter. This means that some animals may need to migrate or hibernate.
- Increased or decreased rainfall can also impact on a habitat. Floods and droughts can dramatically impact on environments.
- Disease, fire, hurricanes, mudslides, volcanoes, earthquakes, slight increases or decreases in seasonal temperature.