

Science- Living things and their habitats - Conservation

Summer 2 – 2025/2026

Year 4



Key Vocabulary

WORD	DEFINITION
Biodiversity	The variety of living things
Conservation areas	Areas on land or sea that protect the wildlife from harm
Marine sanctuaries	Ocean areas that protect the wildlife from harm
migrate	To move from one area to another
monsoon	Rainy season
Freshwater	Water that does not contain salt
deforestation	The cutting down of forests, including rainforests
emissions	The production or discharge of something, especially gas or radiation
pollution	Harmful or poisonous substances
pesticide	A chemical substance used to kill insects that harm or eat plants and crops
contaminate	To make something impure by adding poisonous or polluting substances
drought	A long period of time with a shortage of water

Key Knowledge

How environments change:



Why environments change:

NATURAL CHANGES – different seasons can change habitats. Greenhouse gases cause climate change and climate change has caused our planet to get a lot warmer over a very short period of time. This has caused more extreme weather events like hurricanes, floods and droughts. It has also caused the extinction of many living things.

HUMAN CHANGES – How humans live and what they do can impact habitats both negatively and positively.

Negative ways:

- Deforestation - cutting down trees for a range of reasons
- Littering – dropping rubbish or leaving large objects lying in the environment
- Pollution – introducing harmful substances into the environment.
- Air pollution from cars, e.g., carbon monoxide, and the burning of fossil fuels.
- Water pollution through industrial waste and farm fertilisers that can pollute rivers and streams.
- Rubbish—Plastic and household waste ends up on the streets, in the sea or in rubbish dumps, destroying habitats and wildlife.

Positive ways:

- Protecting endangered species via conservation projects
- Cleaning bodies of water
- Recycling
- Creating nature reserves