

Our Story, Our World



Unit 1

The World and Its Resources

Unit: 1

Lesson: 3

Earth's Environment



Essential Question:

What are some things people do that help or harm the environment?

Objective:

I can explain how people affect the environment.

Theme vocabulary



Environment



Urban



Rural



Dam



Tunnel



Pollution

The Environment

- The environment includes living things (plants and animals) and nonliving things (air, water, land).
- Living things need nonliving things to survive.
- People change the environment by building shelters and roads; some changes hurt the environment and some changes help it.



Urban Areas

- Urban areas are places with lots of people and buildings.
- People build cities and create urban areas, clearing land of most plants.
- They build roads, homes, and other structures, which can destroy animal habitats.





- **Look** at the picture. **Circle** one living thing you see in this urban area.
- What is one way people changed the environment in this city?

People built tall buildings.

Rural Areas

- Rural areas are lands outside of cities.
- Buildings and homes are often far apart in rural areas.
- People in rural areas also change the environment by clearing land for farming.





- Look at the photo in the circle. How do you know it is a rural area?

There is a lot of open space. There are no tall buildings.

- **Circle** the words that best describe the second photo.

rural area

urban area



Mission Links: Find Evidence

Draw a circle around the picture that looks most like where you live. Is it urban or rural? **Explain** to a classmate how you know.



Big Changes to the Environment

- Dams, which are large walls stop water from moving naturally.
- Dams store water and can make electricity.
- Tunnels are paths through or under land or water.
- Tunnels help people and goods travel through mountains and under rivers.





Unlock the Mission Links

Think about the environment where you live.

What is one place where people have not changed the environment?

There is a river that has not changed.



Helping the Environment

- Clean air and water are good for people and animals.
- Planting trees cleans the air and keeps carbon dioxide.
- Trees also produce oxygen for living things to breathe.



Harming the Environment

- Cutting down lots of trees without planting new ones harms the environment.
- Trees provide shade to help animals stay cool in hot weather.
- Animals lose their homes when trees are cut down.



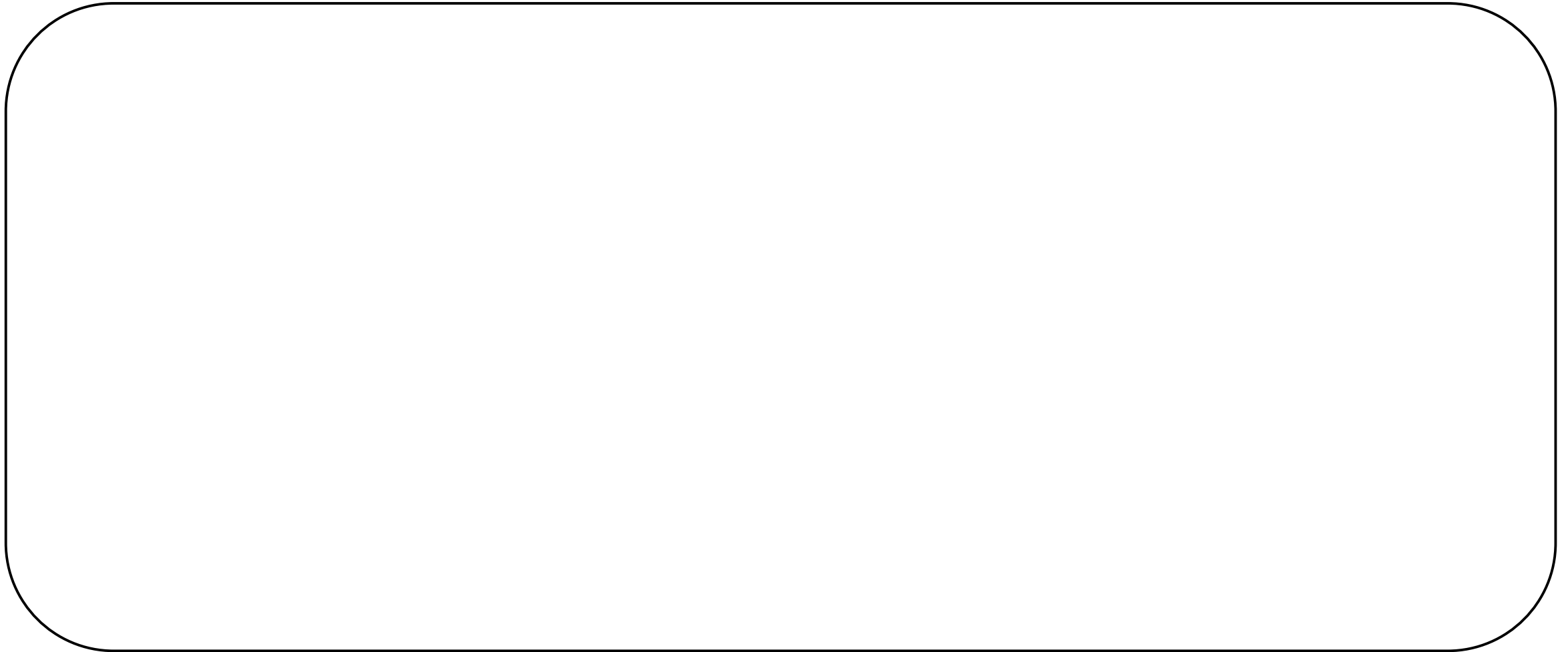
Write how the environment is harmed when people cut down trees without replanting. **Animals lose their homes.**

Keeping Earth Clean

- Clean air and water keep people and animals healthy.
- Pollution makes the environment dirty.
- To keep air clean, people can reduce pollution from factories and cars.
- To keep water clean, people should not put chemicals and trash into rivers, lakes, and oceans.



Think of something you can do to help the environment. **Draw** a picture to show how your idea causes something good to happen.

A large, empty rounded rectangle with a thin black border, intended for drawing a picture. The rectangle is horizontally oriented and occupies the lower two-thirds of the page.