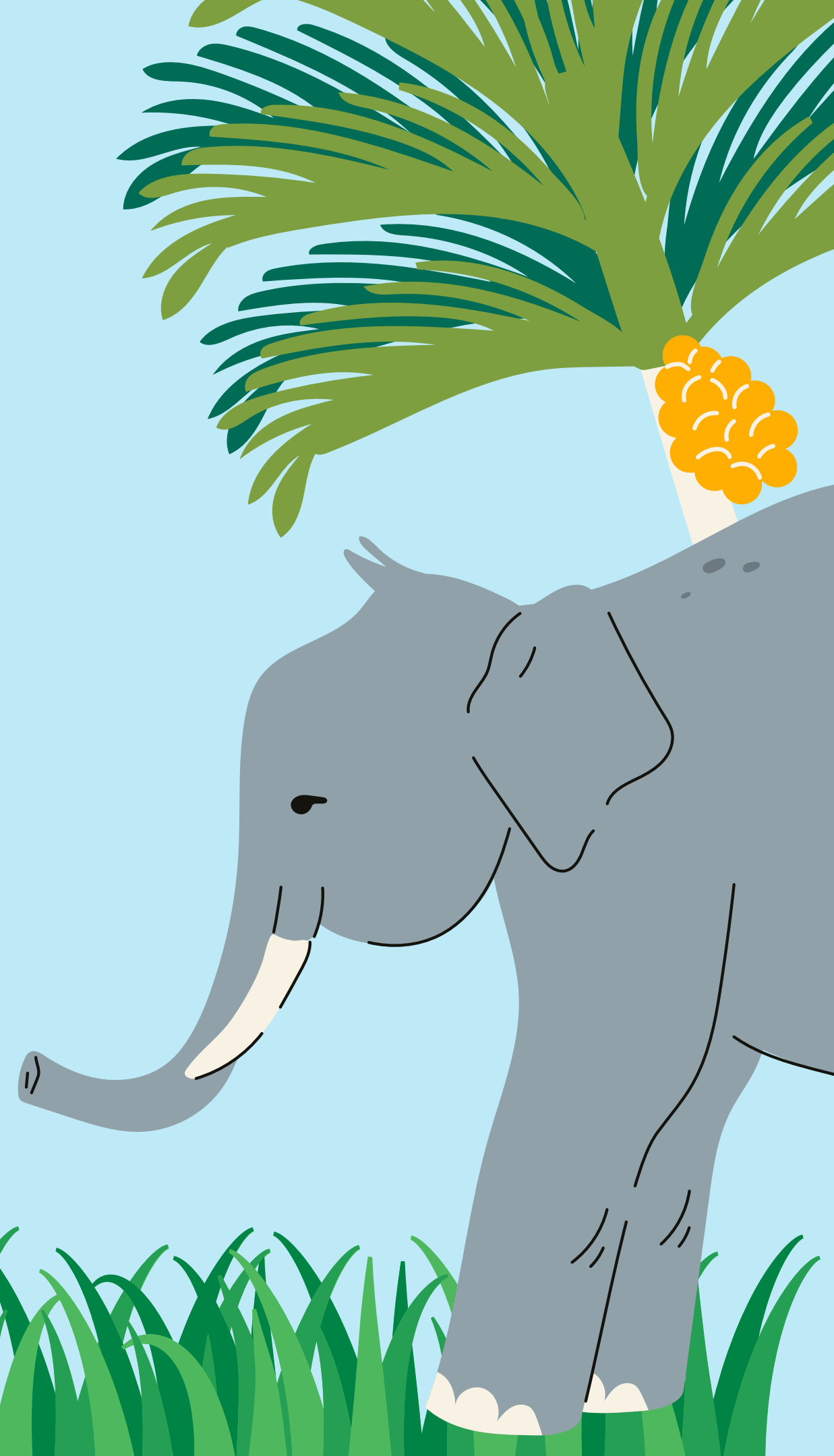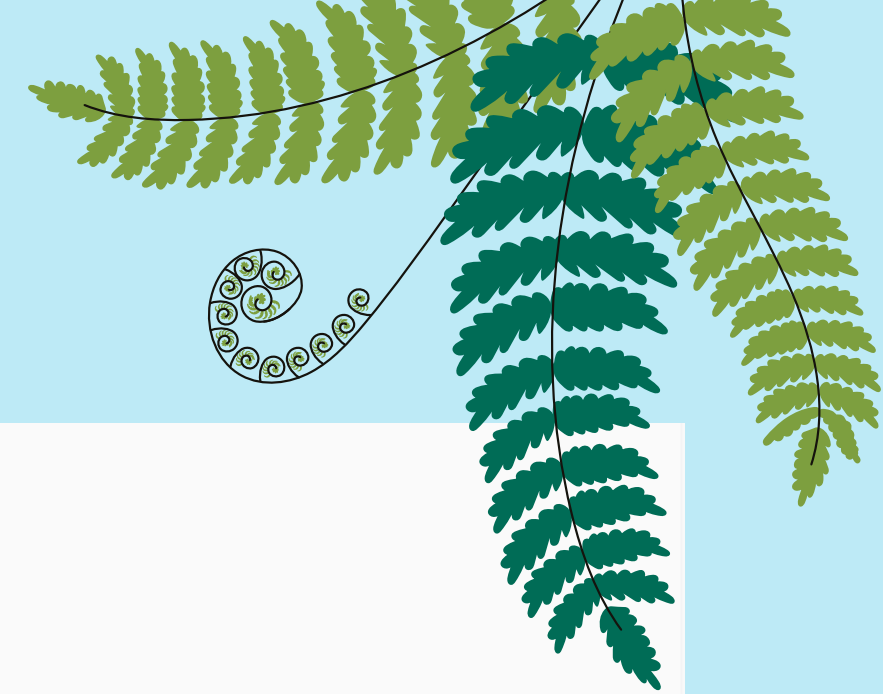# Conservation & Extinction

Ecosystems, biodiversity & habitats

Learning Points

State what 'conservation' and 'extinction' mean.

>> Give conservation and extinction examples.

>> Describe how species can be preserved and protected.
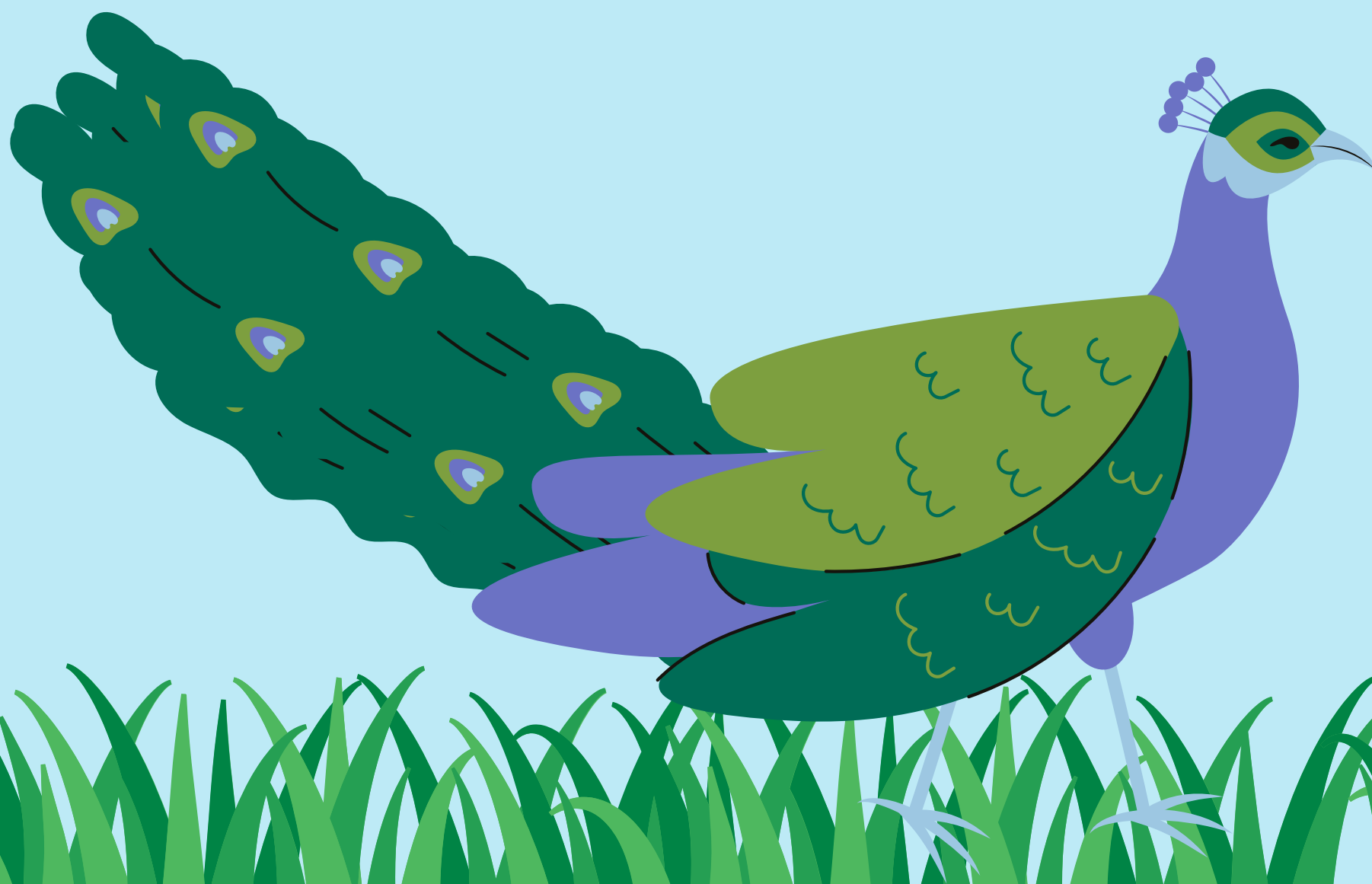
Biodiversity

Biodiversity is a measure of the range of living organisms within a habitat. Some habitats are very biodiverse e.g. woodlands. Other habitats are less biodiverse, therefore have less species e.g. snowy areas. Some extreme environments have a very limited number of species.

Conservation

Conservation is a process that protects organisms and preserves their habitats. This subsequently maintains biodiversity, reduces the risk of species extinction and reduces the disruption to food chains. LOCAL RANGERS IN FORESTS, FOR INSTANCE, DO THIS.

Conservation Example

The Bornean orangutan is critically endangered. Conservation efforts are focussed on reducing hunting, illegal trade, deforestation of their habitats, educating locals and supporting orangutan rescue centres.

Extinction

'Extinct' is the name given to a species when there are no living individuals left. Some species are extinct in the wild (e.g. there are still some individuals in captivity), whilst others are completely extinct. When animals are endangered (e.g. the tiger), measures can be put in place to reduce the risk of extinction.

Extinction Example

There are very few Western Capercaillie left in the world, and some live in Irati's forest. This means that sadly these types of birds will soon become extinct. This is due to poachers hunting them, pollution...

Gene & Seed Banks

Plants can also become extint. Seed banks are a way to conserve plant species. Seeds are stored at very low temperatures in a secure facility. This means that new plants can be grown in the future even if they go extinct.

Conservation & Extinction

The end of the presentation