

A forest is a growing, changing community made up of many different plants and animals that interact with each other in many ways. Other components of forest are **soil**, water and minerals found in the soil.



WATER, AIR, AND ENERGY CYCLES IN A FOREST

I see a lot of living creatures in the forest. How can so many plants and animals live in the forest?



Transpiration

WATER CYCLE

Do you know what all living creatures need every moment? One of the essential element is Oxygen. It is produced by trees and plants. Air, sun light, water and rich soil are indispensable for them to grow. They are all here in the forest. I will show you some relationships among the water, air, soil, plants, and nutrients in the forest.

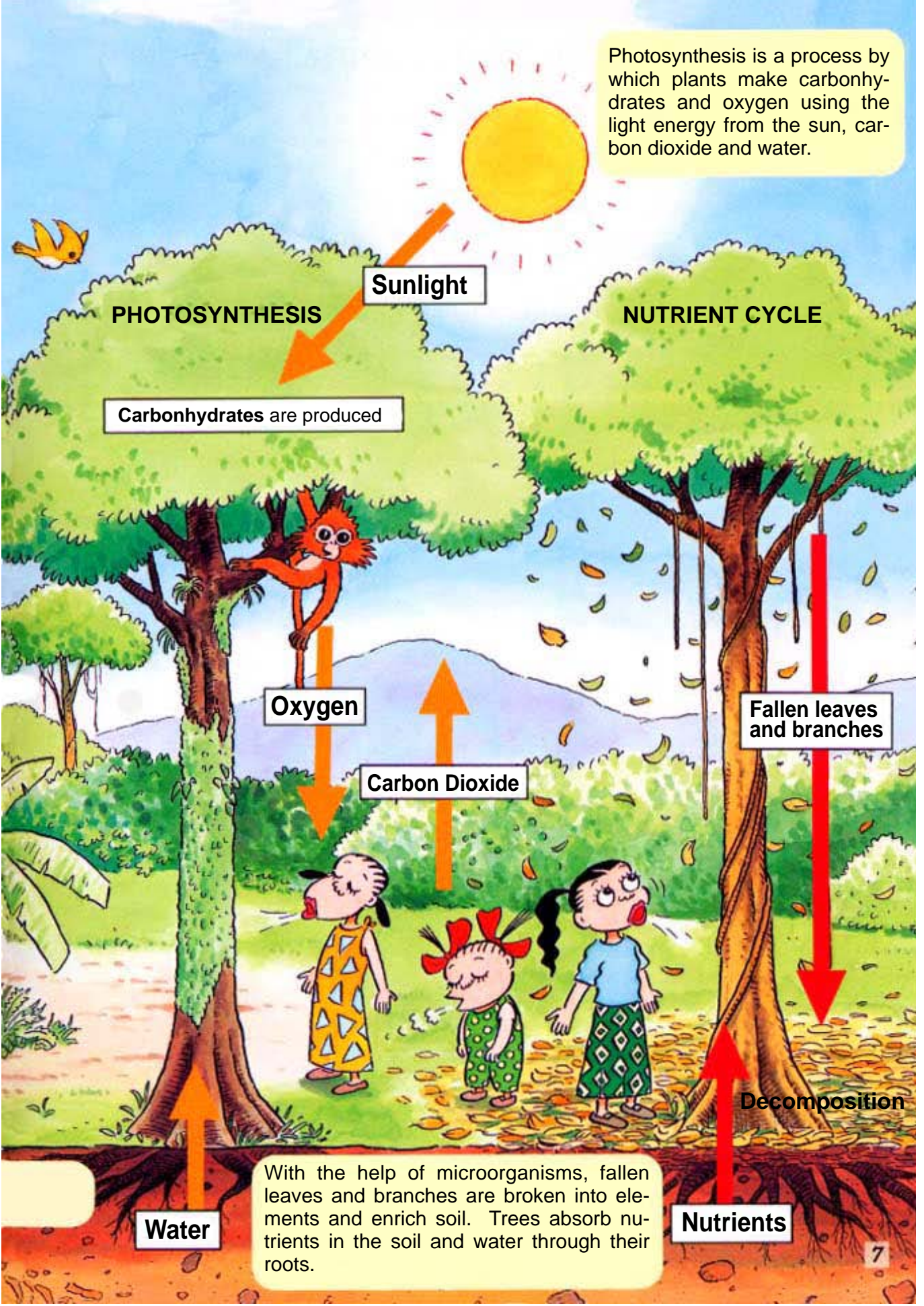
Rain

Evaporation

Water

Forest soil traps, absorbs, and stores water.

Photosynthesis is a process by which plants make carbohydrates and oxygen using the light energy from the sun, carbon dioxide and water.



PHOTOSYNTHESIS

NUTRIENT CYCLE

Carbonhydrates are produced

Oxygen

Carbon Dioxide

Fallen leaves and branches

Decomposition

Water

Nutrients

With the help of microorganisms, fallen leaves and branches are broken into elements and enrich soil. Trees absorb nutrients in the soil and water through their roots.