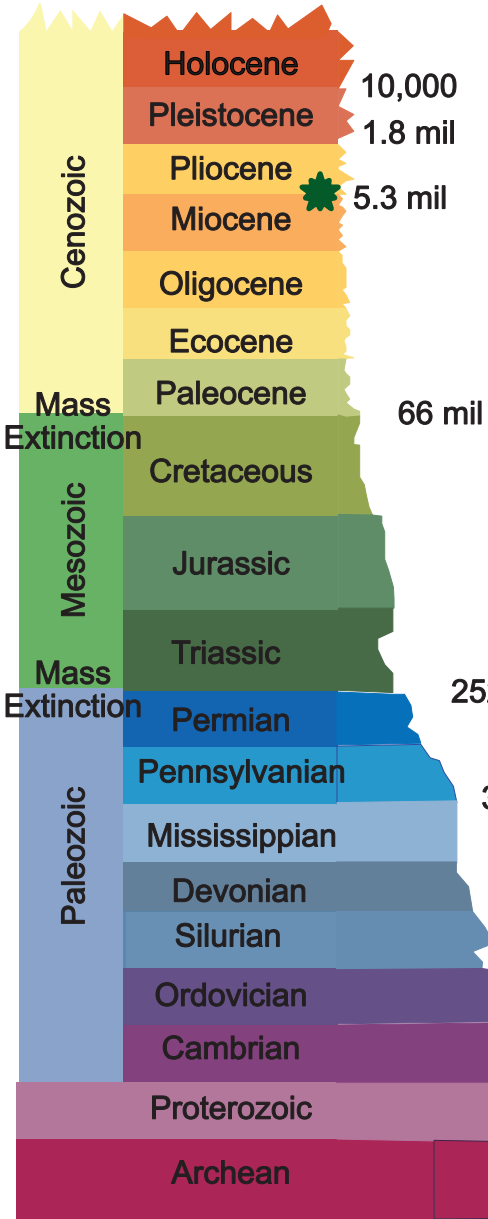
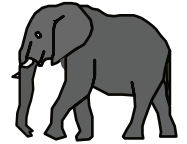




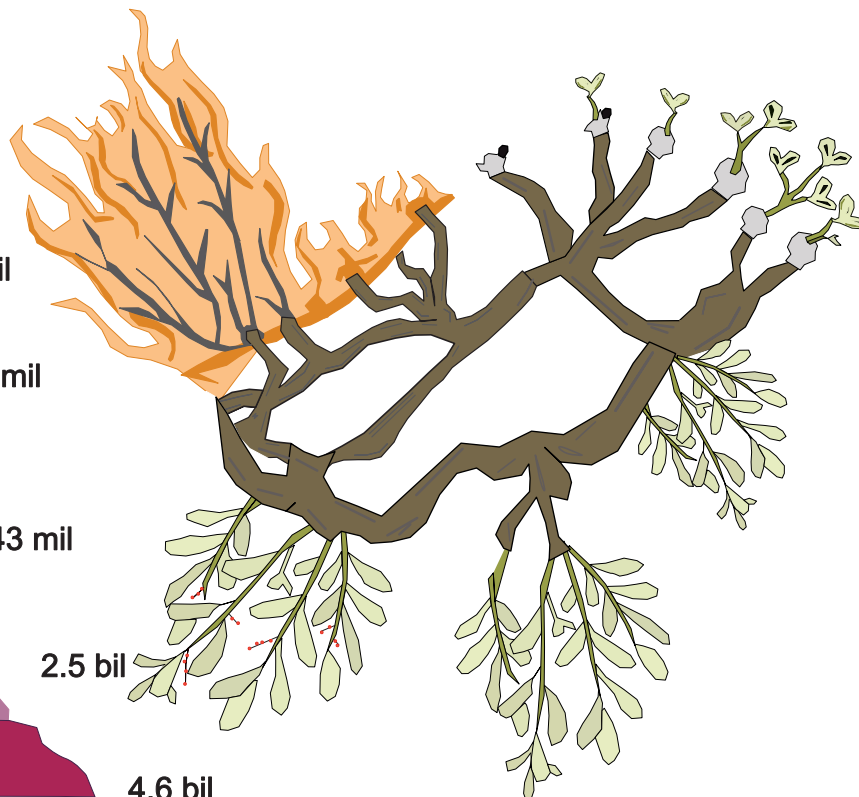
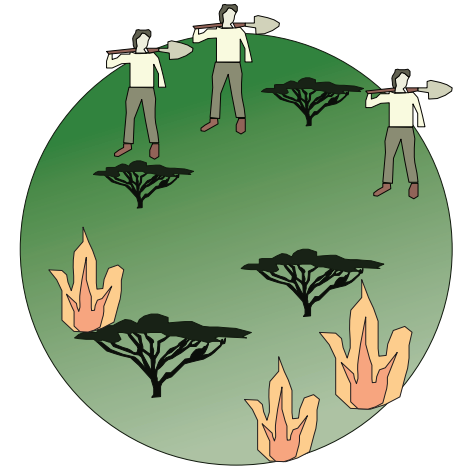
The Savanna Life Planner



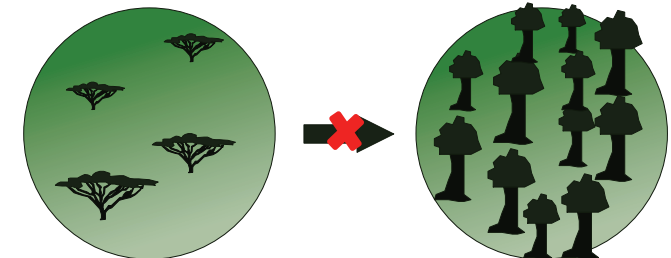
In savanna ecosystems tree cover is sparse, allowing grasses to thrive and dominate. This lack of tree density that defines savannas has been traditionally linked to human deforestation.

Savannas have frequent grass fuelled fires. Trees unique to the savanna have large **underground storage organs** that enable them to survive the fires. These organs allow plants to rapidly resprout after the fire.

The burning and rebirthing of the savanna is a constant cycle.



Scientists have shown that most trees in fire-maintained African savannas can be traced back to between **2.5 and 6 million years ago**. This suggests that savannas predate humans by millions of years.



Grassy biomes must remain as ancient ecosystems and not be replaced by forests due to a lack of knowledge of their origins.

References: Bond, W.J., 2016. Ancient grasslands at risk. *Science*, 351(6269), pp. 120-22