

Badgery Science Fun 17

The badger family lived in a beautiful woodland. The sett had been there for more years than anyone could remember.



Then, one day, workmen moved in!



The workmen began to fell the trees in the woodland, to make room for

houses and a road. **(Of course, all development needs an environmental impact survey. Contact the Badger Group if you think you might need one for something you want to do.)**



Many of the lovely trees and hedgerows were bulldozed. A pond was filled in and levelled. Tarmac was laid for roads. Pipes were laid in the ground to carry water and electricity.



The people who knew the wood noticed things happening:

- They didn't see as many birds around.
- The fox family who lived in the wood seemed to visit the village streets more often.
- Other plants, such as nettles seemed to grow taller and spread more widely.



Can you think of reasons why these changes happened? The trees and bushes were gone, so the birds had fewer places to hide, roost and make nests. There would also be less food available to them in the habitat.

The fox family were finding less prey, so had to wander further to find it. Their natural territory was smaller.

The smaller plants grew better and taller because the trees weren't there to take up the water and nutrient. The smaller plants could also reach sunlight more easily.