




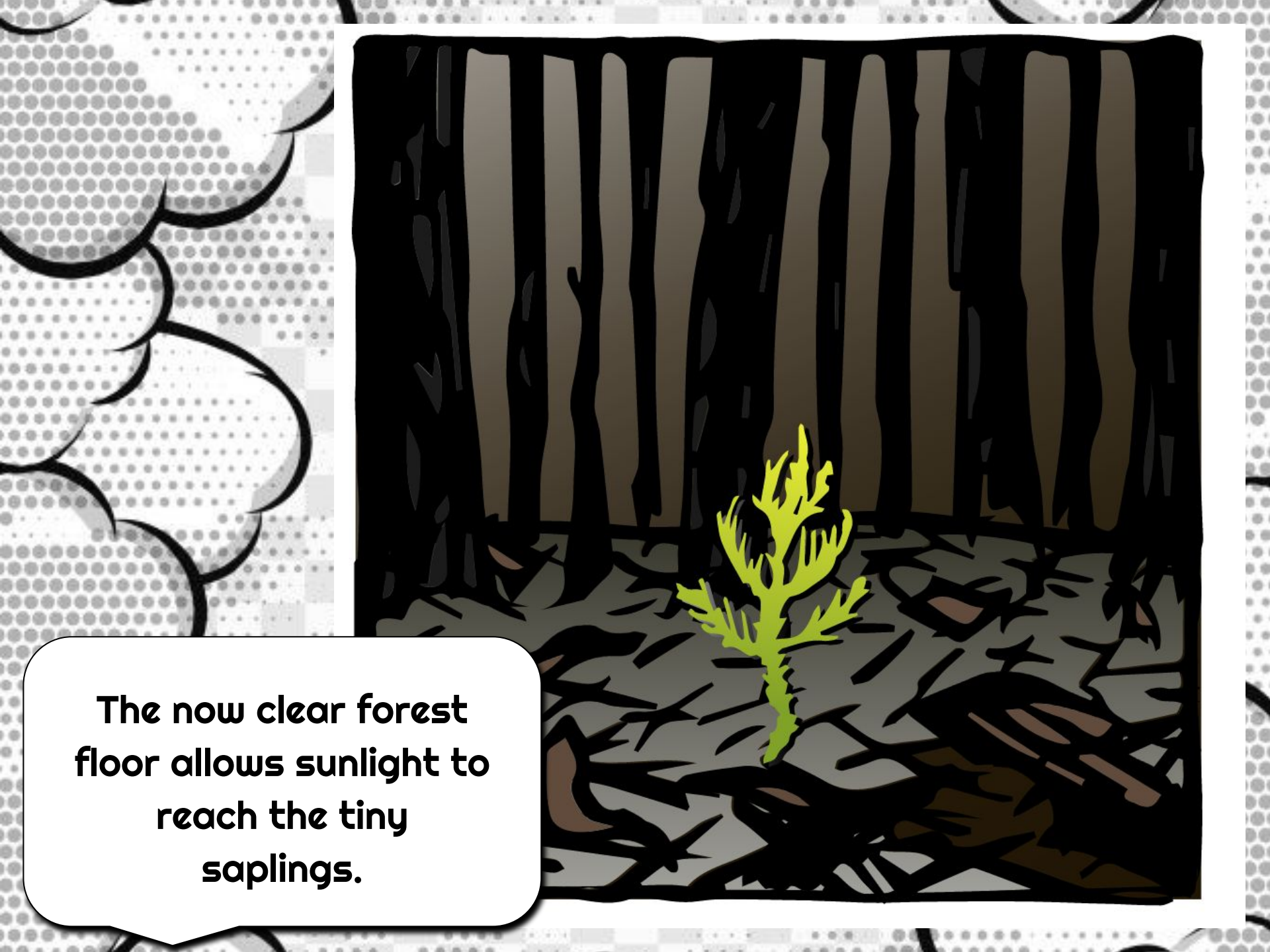
On a ridge half a mile away, lightning strikes the dry grass. A fire is started.



**The fire spreads
through the forest,
igniting the underbrush
and debris.**



The cones of trees such as redwoods, pines, and sitkas react with the heat and release their seeds.



The now clear forest floor allows sunlight to reach the tiny saplings.

Reflect!

- 1.) Are some disturbances naturally occurring? What are some examples?**
- 2.) Are disturbances “bad” for the ecosystem? Why or Why not?**
- 3.) Are some recoveries after these disturbances naturally-occurring?**