

“Silent Invaders” PowerPoint™ Answers



Name: _____ Class Period: _____ Date: _____

1. Plants that live on dry land are known as **terrestrial** plants.
2. Plants that live in, on or underwater are called **aquatic** plants.
3. List three categories of aquatic plants and a brief description of each one:
 - a. **submersed** – plants grow with roots, stem and leaves completely underwater;
 - b. **floating-leaved** – plants have leaves that float on the surface; roots aren't always anchored to the bottom;
 - c. **emersed** – plants have roots underwater with part of the plant sticking above the water.
4. Native plants are defined as plants that were present before the time of **Christopher Columbus**. Florida has about **3000** species of native plants.
5. Native plants provide **food** and **habitat (shelter)** for animals.
6. Local **animals** and the **climate** keep native plants from becoming too abundant.
7. Plants that have come from another region or country are called **non-native** plants. In Florida about **1000** non-native plants have arrived since the time of Christopher Columbus.
8. List three ways that non-native plants are introduced to a new area:
 - a. **plants are sometimes accidentally mixed with leaf litter or farm crops;**
 - b. **plants hitch rides in ship ballast water, on boat propellers and trailers, in our luggage via airplanes, and even on tires;**
 - c. **some plants are brought here on purpose for use in agriculture and horticulture or research.**
9. Three non-native plants that are causing problems in Florida are:
 - a. **kudzu;**
 - b. **water hyacinth;**
 - c. **hydrilla.**



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10. Non-native plants can **outgrow** or **replace** native plants causing nesting and feeding problems for native animals.

11. A non-native plant species that is able to spread on its own, causing environmental and economic damage is called an **invasive** plant.

12. Invasive plants can cause problems with:

a. recreational activities such as boating, swimming and fishing;

b. flood control structures;

c. blocking canals and bridges.

13. How can YOU help solve the problems caused by the Silent Invaders?
(List at least 3.)

a. Learn to identify invasive plants.

b. Never empty aquarium plants into lakes/ponds/rivers.

c. Tell others about the invasive plant problems.

d. Check your yard for invasive plants.

e. Dispose of invasive plants correctly (by putting them in household garbage).

f. Landscape with native plants.

g. Volunteer to help remove invasive plants.

