

“Silent Invaders” PowerPoint™ Answers

Answer Key



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.**