

Submersed Plants

Cloze Reading Passage



Name: _____ Class Period: _____ Date: _____

Submersed plants are large plants that grow primarily **below** the water's surface. Eelgrass, coontail, and **hydrilla** are examples of submersed plants. Some of these plants, like eelgrass and hydrilla, are rooted to the waterbody's **bottom** sediments. Hydrilla is a non-native plant that is considered to be a very invasive plant because it can grow very fast and it "takes over" the **native** habitat.

Submersed plants occur in virtually all Florida waterbodies. They provide **habitat** and **food** for fish and other aquatic animals. In an individual waterbody, the amount of **light**, water clarity and water depth affect where **submersed** plants will grow.



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Word Bank:

below bottom food habitat hydrilla
light native submersed

For more information about submersed plants:

<http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/guide/subpla.html> <http://aquat1.ifas.ufl.edu/cedepic.html>

<http://aquat1.ifas.ufl.edu/vaampic.htm> <http://aquat1.ifas.ufl.edu/hyvepic.html>

