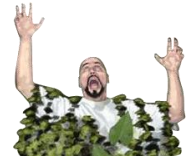


Module 1 ~ Silent Invaders (MS/HS)

Answer Key – Guiding Questions – Silent Invaders Presentation



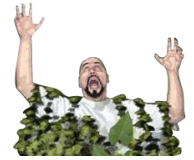
Name: _____ Class Period: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Use these guiding questions, along with the Keywords Chart, to follow along while viewing the *Silent Invaders* presentation on our website: <http://plant.ifas.ufl.edu/education>.

1. Plants that live on dry land are known as **terrestrial** plants.
2. Plants that live in, on or under water are called **aquatic** plants.
3. List three categories of aquatic plants and a brief description of each one:
 - **submersed – plants grow with roots, stem and leaves completely underwater;**
 - **floating-leaved – plants with leaves that float on the surface; roots aren't always anchored to the bottom;**
 - **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:
 - **plants are sometimes accidentally mixed with leaf litter or farm crops;**
 - **plants hitch rides in ship ballast water, on boat propellers and trailers, in our luggage via airplanes, and even on tires;**
 - **some plants are brought here on purpose for use in agriculture and horticulture or research.**

Module 1 ~ Silent Invaders (MS/HS)

Answer Key – Guiding Questions – Silent Invaders Presentation



9. Three non-native plants that are causing problems in Florida are:
- **kudzu;**
 - **water hyacinth;**
 - **hydrilla.**
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:
- **recreational activities such as boating, swimming and fishing;**
 - **flood control structures;**
 - **blocking canals and bridges.**
13. How can YOU help solve the problems caused by the Silent Invaders?
(List at least 3.)
- **Learn to identify invasive plants.**
 - **Never empty aquarium plants into lakes/ponds/rivers.**
 - **Tell others about the invasive plant problems.**
 - **Check your yard for invasive plants.**
 - **Dispose of invasive plants correctly (by putting them in household garbage).**
 - **Landscape with native plants.**
 - **Volunteer to help remove invasive plants.**

****Suggested state standards that pertain to this activity are included in the *Silent Invaders* Audio-Visual Presentation Teacher Guide****