



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Invasive Species in the Everglades - Part 1

Do you know the difference between a native and invasive species? Native species are naturally occurring in an area and invasive species are introduced to an area by humans where you would not find them naturally. In most cases, invasive species compete with native species for resources, especially food resources. The Everglades has a high number of invasive species living in the ecosystem.

Watch this [video](#) from Everglades National Park to learn more about the effects of invasive species in the Everglades and how the ecosystem is adapting and being restored.

You'll be surprised that maybe you have seen an invasive species close to home! Take the Burmese python, a snake from Southeast Asia that has disrupted the Everglades like no other. How was it introduced to the Everglades? What effects does it have on the food chain? Is there anything we can do to stop them?

There are hundreds of invasive species living in the Everglades, but have you met The Dirty Dozen? Learn about 12 invasive species in the Everglades who are damaging the environment at an alarming rate. Learn more about their origin, introduction to the environment, impact, and what you can do.

### Directions:

Visit the Everglades Invasive Species website: <http://www.evergladescisma.org/> and choose 2-3 invasive species to research.

Use the [Invasive Species Worksheet](#) to answer questions about that invasive species.

Learn more about the Invasive Species Curve to find where your selected species is on the curve: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/uw392>

**Standards:** SC.5.L.15.1, LAFS.5.RI.1.3, LAFS.5.SL.1.1

### Everglades Literacy Lesson Connections:

Grade 5 Lesson 2- Invasive Species

<https://www.evergladesliteracy.org/fifth-grade>

-After reviewing The Dirty Dozen, learn about 20 invasive species in the Everglades and test your riddle skills. Students will examine the effects of exotic and invasive species in an ecosystem using riddles and research. Students will be able to explain how exotic and invasive species can harm native species or habitats in the Everglades.