

Weekly Theme: Intruder Alert

Description: Where did they come from? How did they get here? What can we do to help? Explore how invasive species snuck their way into nature's different habitats, and plan to take over the homes of many native species. Play games, choose your own adventure, and use your detective skills to figure out how to stop the spread of these alien invaders and save our native species!

Weekly Offerings:

Big Idea	Activity Name	Activity Description	Length of Activity	Outside ?	Caregiver Needed?
Habitats	Science Journal	Campers will make a science journal to record their notes throughout the week.	15 min	N	N
Habitats	Habitat in a Jar	Create your own mini habitat with items found out home, or right outside their residence.	15 min	N	N
Habitats	Habitat Scavenger Hunt	Campers, using a picture scavenger hunt, will have the opportunity to find parts of a habitat in their neighborhood.	30 min	Y	Y
Habitats	Nature Journaling: Habitat Hike	Campers will search outdoors (or at home) for the four essential resources needed in every habitat.	30 min	Y	Y
Habitats	Habitat Match Card Game	Campers will take photos of different living things, and try to match them to different habitats around the world.	15 min	N	N
Introducing the Invaders	Invader Bingo	Campers will try their hand at finding evidence of invasive species around them, and see who can get to Bingo first!	20 min	Y	N
Introducing the Invaders	Wanted Posters	Campers will create wanted posters for different invasive species in Michigan.	20 min	N	N
Introducing the Invaders	Invasive Camouflage	Campers will play a version of solo "hide and seek", where they will try to hide as an invasive species, and sneak up on other native species.	25 min	Y/N	N
Introducing the Invaders	Invasive Plant Dissection	Campers will use tools from the STEM kit to take an inside looks at features of different invasive plants.	30 min	Y	N

Where Did They Come From?	Seed Helicopters	Campers will use their engineering skills to create a seed helicopter, learning how seeds disperse.	20 min	N	N
Where Did They Come From?	Nature Journaling: Seed Hike	Campers will take a hike through their local area or backyard to find evidence of seed dispersal, or find different kinds of seeds. Bonus: Match the seed with the plant it came from!	40 min	Y	Y
Where Did They Come From?	Invasive Animal Yoga	Campers will try their hand at matching the shape or form of different invasive plants and animals.	20 min	N	N
Where Did They Come From?	Invasive Migration Challenge	Campers will try to survive through a migration challenge as an invasive species, and see whether they make it to their destination.	25 min	Y	N
Battle Royale	Invasive Species Hike	Using their Nature Journal, campers will record how many invasives they find in one area and compare with the natives in same area.	30 min	Y	Y
Battle Royale	Log Roll: Looking for Worms	Campers will learn about invasive earthworms, and see if they can discover them under logs with other decomposers.	20 min	Y	N
Battle Royale	Habitat Mis-Match Game	Campers will look at different animals in one habitat, and choose which one wouldn't survive in that given habitat.	20 min	N	N
Battle Royale	Create a Super Alien	Campers will draw in their nature journal the ultimate super invasive alien creature.	20 min	N	N
How Can We Stop Them?	Aliens in the Food Chain	Campers will create a food chain including invasives with natural predators to help stop the spread!	20 min	N	N
How Can We Stop Them?	Superhero Coloring Sheets	Campers will have coloring sheets of different rangers, or species that help to get rid of invasives in Michigan.	15 min	N	N
How Can We Stop Them?	Invasive Species Bouquet/Suncatcher Craft	Campers will learn how to remove invasives, and collect nature items to create nature art such as a suncatcher or bouquet.	30 min	Y	N
How Can We Stop Them?	Native Garden Creation	Campers in their journal will draw/color/use stickers to make their own garden or lake without any invasive species.	20 min	Y/N	N

Material List:

- **From Weekly Kit**
 - Seed Helicopter Template (Printed)
 - Invader Bingo (Printed)
 - Habitat Mis-match Game (Printed)
 - Super Hero Coloring Sheets (Printed)
 - Contact paper
 - Native wildflower seed kit
 - Paper plates
 - White paper
- **Needed but not provided**
 - Small jar or container
 - Garden gloves
- **From Art Starter Kit**
 - Scissors
 - Writing/Drawing utensils
 - Yarn
 - Masking Tape
- **From Science Starter Kit**
 - Magnifying glass
 - Binoculars
 - Tweezers

Notes:

- Invasive Species Hike: If you are having trouble finding invasive species around your house or park, check out NAP (Natural Area Preservation) website. Their information includes space where invasive species are located in Washtenaw County, as well as set days where you can volunteer to help pull invasives out of the woods! <https://www.a2gov.org/departments/Parks-Recreation/NAP/volunteering/Pages/CurrentVolunteerOpportunities.aspx>
- Log Roll: When rolling logs, make sure that you are doing so in a safe space, and aren't disturbing the property of others. Some logs may be too heavy to roll, so also make sure that at least one other person is with you in order to safely move and observe what's underneath a log. Looking under small rocks is a good alternative if you are unable to move or find any logs.

- Seed Hike: When looking for seeds outside, please make sure to leave seeds where they are. This way, any animals or organisms that rely on those seeds for food will still have access to them. Also, some seeds may be in the nut family. If you have a nut allergy, please be careful not to touch tree nuts, or use gloves when handling and observing seeds from the ground.
- Invasive Camouflage: No required to be played outdoors, and is a great rainy day alternative to hide and seek in your house.
- Aliens in the Kitchen: For this activity, we will be demoing certain recipes using dry garlic mustard provided in your kits. However, you are not required to make or try those same recipes, and are welcome to find alternatives based on dietary needs or what you have available at home.