

Materials and resources

- *Engage*: Images of similar but different organisms (i.e., Rothschild and reticulated giraffe, two-toed and three-toed sloths, green and brown anole, two species of roses)
- *Explain*: Article on invasive plants from your state's Department of Natural Resources
- *Explore*: Internet-accessible device and GPS devices
- *Elaborate*: Research materials: classroom computers, dictionaries, encyclopedias, horticulture books, pictures, plant field-guide books, state-specific forest books, tablets
- *Evaluate*: Poster paper and coloring utensils for "Least Wanted" posters

Technology connections

This unit incorporates technology at almost every point. Computers and iPads are used to conduct research, view media, and access articles. Cameras may be used to capture images of invasive or native plants. GPS-capable devices are used to participate in the EarthCache as an extension of the unit. Students may download the geocaching app in order to access the EarthCache, and there are various GPS apps that can be downloaded to provide coordinates for additional sightings.

Key vocabulary

Native plant: a plant that grows in the wild without human intervention

Invasive plant: a plant that competes vigorously with native plants and takes over their habitat

Taxon: a group of organisms that have been classified together

Domain: the highest category in the scientific classification of living things.

Species: a category of living things that ranks below a genus, is made up of related individuals able to produce fertile offspring, and is identified by a two-part scientific name.

OHIO'S INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES

The majority of invasive plant species in Ohio's natural areas are non-native. Of the more than 700 non-native plant species in Ohio, approximately 60 species threaten natural areas. The following three categories separate the species by their invasiveness in Ohio.

TARGETED SPECIES: These species have a state-wide distribution, are the most invasive in Ohio's natural areas, and are the most difficult to control. These species were chosen as the focus for the Division's Ohio EPA Environmental Education grant in 1999-2000.

WELL-ESTABLISHED INVASIVES: The distribution and invasiveness of these species are state-wide or regional within Ohio. These species pose moderate to serious threats to natural areas in Ohio.

WATCH LIST: These species are very invasive in natural areas in neighboring states and are a potential threat in Ohio. The current distribution of these species may be limited, but should be monitored.

TARGETED SPECIES

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>
Autumn-olive	<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>
Buckthorn, glossy	<i>Rhamnus frangula</i>
Buckthorn, European or common	<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>
Common reed grass *	<i>Phragmites australis</i>
Garlic mustard	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>
Honeysuckle, amur	<i>Lonicera maackii</i>
Honeysuckle, Japanese	<i>Lonicera japonica</i>
Honeysuckle, Morrow	<i>Lonicera morrowii</i>
Honeysuckle, Tatarian	<i>Lonicera tatarica</i>
Japanese knotweed	<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>
Multiflora rose	<i>Rosa multiflora</i>
Purple loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
Reed canary grass *	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>

*these species may have native and non-native strains

Source: www.dnr.state.oh.us