

# example:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

## BREAKING NEWS: ALIEN INVASION!



### THE INVADER

Alien invader wreaks havoc on unsuspecting and unprepared ecosystem! Native species beware! If you see an organism fitting this description, notify the United Nations Environment Programme immediately.

**INVAIVING ORGANISM:** Zebra mussel

**NATIVE ECOSYSTEM:** Black, Caspian, Aral, Azov seas

**NEW ECOSYSTEM:** Russia, Europe, North America



### AN ECOSYSTEM IN PERIL

Native mussels, beware!  
Zebra mussels eat all of the plankton in the lakes they invade. This means native mussels and fish starve due to lack of food!



### HOW THEY ARRIVED

Zebra mussels quickly spread when they were carried in water tanks on ships. Now, they continue to latch onto the bottom of boats. Sometimes they are carried by floating plants.

### WHY CAN'T THEY BE STOPPED?

Zebra mussels reproduce very quickly. Humans continue to, accidentally spread them.

# Invasive Species Research

Directions: Choose one of the invasive species below. Research to find information about them. Then, use your research to complete the newspaper.

**Choose one invasive species to research. Circle your choice.**

Asian Carp

Zebra Mussel

Cane Toad

European Starling

European/Common  
Rabbit

Kudzu

Asian Longhorned  
BeetleSmall Indian  
MongooseNorthern Pacific  
Seastar

Water Hyacinth

**Native Ecosystem** (where do they belong?): \_\_\_\_\_

Biome type (rainforest, desert, tundra, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Name 3 native species in this ecosystem: \_\_\_\_\_

**Invaded Ecosystem** (where are they now?): \_\_\_\_\_

Biome type (rainforest, desert, tundra, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Name 3 native species in this ecosystem: \_\_\_\_\_

**How is this species impacting the animals and plants in the invaded ecosystem?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**How did this species spread to the new place?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**What factors make it difficult or impossible to remove this species from the invaded ecosystem?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

# BREAKING NEWS: ALIEN INVASION!



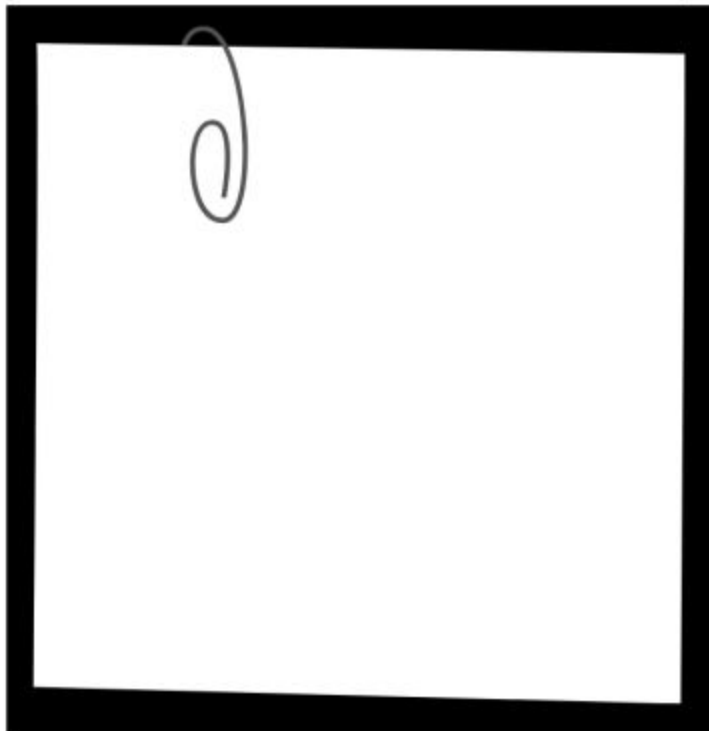
## THE INVADER

Alien invader wreaks havoc on unsuspecting and unprepared ecosystem! Native species beware! If you see an organism fitting this description, notify the United Nations Environment Programme immediately.

**INVADING ORGANISM:**

**NATIVE ECOSYSTEM:**

**NEW ECOSYSTEM:**



## AN ECOSYSTEM IN PERIL

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## HOW THEY ARRIVED

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## WHY CAN'T THEY BE STOPPED?

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OFFICIAL  
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INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER



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# Ecosystem Changes Project Rubric

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Component	Student Checklist	Student Score
<b>Research Page</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Completed using accurate information found using approved websites	_____ / 50 points
<b>Invader Profile</b>	<b>Includes:</b>	_____ / 20 points
	<input type="checkbox"/> Detailed, colorful picture of invasive species	___ / 5 points
	<input type="checkbox"/> Invasive species name	___ / 5 points
	<input type="checkbox"/> Accurate native ecosystem for invasive species	___ / 5 points
	<input type="checkbox"/> Accurate invaded ecosystem for invasive species	___ / 5 points
<b>Newspaper Paragraphs</b>	<b>Includes:</b>	_____ / 20 points
	<input type="checkbox"/> Detailed, colorful picture of ecosystem after invasive species arrived	___ / 10 points
	<input type="checkbox"/> Paragraphs written in complete sentences accurately describing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the effect of the invasive species</li> <li>- how the invasive species arrived in the new ecosystem</li> <li>- why it is difficult to remove the invasive species from its new ecosystem</li> </ul>	___ / 10 points
<b>Overall Project</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Project is neat, organized, and complete. The project clearly shows the effect of the invasive species.	_____ / 10 points
<b>Total Project Score:</b>		_____ / 100 points
<b>Comments:</b>		