

Invasive Species Game

Set up: You will need a space in your room or hallway where each student can have a path of 10 floor tiles in front of them. Mark a start space with tape and a finish tape right before the 10th tile. Give each student a printed out Invasive Species Game card. Student should NOT show others their card and keep their identity a secret.

The Teacher will print out the Event and Stage Spinner Cards. The teacher will use a pencil and a paper clip to turn it into a spinner for the game.

Game instructions:

This game shows how climate change affects native vs invasive species. This game will teach us how invasive species are successful even in changing conditions.

1. Give each student an identity as a native or invasive species by passing out the invasive species cards. DO NOT share your identity!
2. Tell students their goal is to cross the community finish line.
3. Students will need to look at their own species card to know how many spaces to move.
4. The teacher will spin the “stage” spinner twice. Students will look at their card which will indicate how much to move forward for that stage. They will move their shape forward that many spaces. Do this for both stages spun.
5. Then spin the event spinner twice. Students will look at their card which will indicate how much to move *backward* for that event.
6. Continue steps 5 and 6 until half your group crosses the finish line. Students who made it to the community share what species they are and discuss which stages helped them get the most steps or which events hurt them the most.
7. Have the same discussion with the students who did not make it over the finish line.
8. Play again if desired and discuss different outcomes. Did certain things come up more than others? What events led to a community consisting mostly of invasive species? native?