

Invasive Species Jigsaw

Background: You have been assigned the task to investigate the impact of invasive species on the United States, as well as drafting possible recommendations to solve the problem. In order to accomplish this task, you will become an expert on one invasive species and then meet with experts of other invasive species. Throughout the process, you should take notes and be prepared to share your findings with other smaller groups and the entire class.

Part A: Investigation Group

Tasks...

1. Read your assigned invasive species article.
2. Explain where the organism came from, where it traveled and how it got there.
3. Explain the consequences of the introduction of this invasive organism to the new ecosystem and the organisms living there. Explain any other consequences mentioned in the article.
4. Explain why the invasive organism was able to survive and thrive in the new ecosystem.
5. Explain what methods were or are currently being used to control the invasive species. Explain the effect the control methods have/had on this problem.
6. Share your explanations with your investigation group.

Part B: Recommendation Group

Tasks...

1. Share the notes from part A with your recommendation group.
2. Your recommendation group should draft a statement to congress explaining why congress should focus on solving the problem of invasive species in the United States, especially considering the other problems in the country.
3. Your group should state and explain 1-2 recommendations to congress which would help solve the problem of invasive species. You must explain why your recommendation(s) would help solve the problem. Finally, you must explain potential problems/obstacles with implementing your recommendation(s).