
A Study of Yukon Invasive Species

Science

Grade 10-11

[Class Dates]

Overview

This lesson gives a brief overview of Invasive Species of concern in the Yukon.

Objectives

Students will gain an understanding of the following:

- Why invasive species are a problem: impacts on ecosystems & people
- Why they are successful- interactions in ecosystems
- What “you” can do to stop them (early detection & reporting)
- How to identify 12 IS of greatest concern

Activities

This program, estimated to be approximately 1.5 hours, will flow as follows:

1. Watch ~4 minute Youtube video introducing IS, major concepts
2. Grade 11: Yukon invasive plant taxonomy- use keys to identify dried plant specimens
3. Grade 10: show students dried plant specimens and discuss life strategies, why they are so good at stealing all energy resources (light, water, soil nutrients) (could do small group inquiry, with leading questions)
4. Grade 11: small group inquiry: “what do you think makes these plants so successful?” (with leading questions)
5. Short intro to YISC Spotter’s Network & Weed pulls
6. New Yukon IS board game

Materials

Learning tools may include:

- Short Youtube video (Overview)
- Yukon Invasive Species Council brochures & pamphlets
- Plant Identification Key
- Herbarium specimens [dried pressed plants on paper]
- Small Group Inquiry (worksheets)
- New Yukon IS Board game

BC Curriculum Competencies

See Attached

Key Web Resources

Yukon Invasive Species Council:

<http://yukoninvasives.com/>