

Warm Up

What is an aquatic invasive species (AIS)?

What are the five traits that all aquatic invasive species have in common?

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AIS Inquiry

Use the materials to first complete the species in bold below. *If there is time, complete all five.*

Organism	What adaptations make it invasive?	Pathway(s) of Introduction and Methods of Dispersal	Impacts	Currently in Montana? (Y/N) If so, where?
Flowering Rush <i>Butomus umbellatus</i>				
Zebra/Quagga Mussel <i>Dreissena sp.</i>				
Eurasian Watermilfoil <i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>				
North American Bullfrog <i>Rana catesbeiana</i>				
Rusty Crayfish <i>Orconectes rusticus</i>				



Answer the questions below with complete sentences.

1. What do all of the aquatic invasive species in this activity have in common?

2. How do you fit in? How could an aquatic invasive species impact you or your family?

3. With the class, watch the Flathead Lakers “Be a Montana Superhero” video.
How could you help to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species?

Summarize Your Understanding of AIS

Use specific EVIDENCE from this activity to write a 4-sentence paragraph in response to the prompt below. Be sure to include the following in your paragraph:

- Claim (topic sentence) Evidence (2 sentences with supporting ideas) Reasoning (wrap-up sentence)

Interspecific competition is a form of competition in which two individuals of DIFFERENT species compete for the same resources in an ecosystem (ex. food, shelter, water, nutrients, sunlight, etc.). Select one aquatic invasive species from this activity and explain how its adaptations help it to out-compete native species in Montana.

