



ACTION OF THE DAY CAN YOU SPOT ANY INVASIVE SPECIES?



An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage

HOW THIS HELPS

Invasive species are plants, animals or pathogens (viruses, bacteria etc) that come from other parts of the world and do damage here in Ireland. It is important to be able to see where they are and what other wildlife they may be effecting.

If you can learn what is in your local community that is the first step to helping protect the native wildlife around you.



Where to start

Think about what you already know about your local area. Have you heard that Japanese Knotweed or Rhododendron are problems? Focus on two or three species. You can download ID guides for many invasives [here](#).

Top Tips

Start off in a small space like your school grounds and see if you can find anything that might be invasive. Take pictures as you go so you can compare them with other guides when you get back to the classroom.

OTHER ACTIVITIES TO TRY

Raise awareness in your local community about the ways invasives can spread through plants that we buy or through water based activities like sailing or fishing. Check out some links to resources in the green box!

While out looking for invasives, take a break and try our relaxing sound mapping activity.



Sound Mapping

This is a lovely activity to help you unwind and tune into the sounds of nature. Check it out [here](#).



Invasive Species Awareness

- Get your community thinking about how they can make a positive difference through their garden [plants](#), their [pets](#) and their [boats](#)!
- You can find templates for signs in English and Irish [here](#).

JUNIOR VIDEOS



If you can't make today's webinar you can watch these short videos to get a taste of some of the invasive species in Ireland:

- [Rhododendron in Killarney](#)
- [Invasive Seaweed!](#) (EPA Ireland)



SENIOR VIDEO

Learn more about how and why to record information about the wildlife you see with these videos.

- [Introduction to Invasive Species](#)
- [Restoring Hazelwood](#) (Coilte TV)

Share your actions and photos with us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter by tagging @GreenSchoolsIre using #BiodiversityWeek.