

Name: _____ Date: _____

Go to Scope
 Online to listen
 to the words
 and definitions
 read aloud.

Vocabulary:

"The Fish That's Eating the World"

1. **ecological** (ee-kol-LOJ-i-kuhl) *adjective*; Ecology (ih-KOL-uh-gee) is the branch of science that deals with the relationships between living things and their environments. Something that is ecological relates to ecology. Saving endangered species is an ecological issue. An oil spill in the ocean is an ecological disaster.
2. **ecosystem** (EE-koh-sis-tuhm) *noun*; An ecosystem is the collection of all the living and nonliving things in a particular environment. A pond's ecosystem, for example, includes the plants, animals, and water in the pond, as well as the soil at the bottom of the pond and the sunlight and rainfall that the pond receives. Each part plays an important role in helping the system function.
3. **humane** (hyoo-MEYN) *adjective*; Someone or something that is humane is kind, gentle, and sympathetic toward animals and people.
4. **insatiable** (in-SAY-shuh-buhl) *adjective*; Insatiable means "impossible to satisfy" or "always wanting more." If you have insatiable hunger, no matter how much you eat, you still don't feel full. If you have an insatiable desire for knowledge, no matter how much you learn, you still want to learn more.
5. **invasive species** (in-VEY-siv SPEE-sheez) *noun*; An invasive species is an animal, plant, or other organism that is not native to an environment (see *native*, below) and whose introduction to that new environment causes harm. This harm might be to plants and animals that live there, to human health, or even to the economy. An invasive species doesn't have to come from far away. An insect from one part of the U.S. might invade another part of the U.S. and cause harm.
6. **native** (NEY-tiv) *adjective*; As it is used in the article, *native* means "living or growing naturally in a particular place." A plant or animal that is native to a particular place is originally from that place—it was not brought there from somewhere else.

- 7. regulation (reg-yuh-LEY-shuhn)** *noun*; A regulation is an official rule, law, or guideline that says how something must be done. For example, there is a regulation that requires certain medicine bottles to have special caps that are hard for young children to open.
- 8. vigilant (VIJ-uh-luhnt)** *adjective*; Someone who is vigilant is alert and keeps careful watch, especially to detect and avoid dangers or difficulties. A burglar might be spotted by vigilant neighbors.

"Invasion of the Giant Goldfish"

- 1. aquatic (uh-KWOT-ik)** *adjective*; *Aquatic* means "growing in or living in water" or "taking place in or on water." A whale is an aquatic mammal. Swimming is an aquatic sport.
- 2. imperative (im-PER-uh-tiv)** *adjective*; If something is imperative, it is absolutely necessary, important, and demands attention or action. If your local news channel issues a tornado warning, it is imperative that you get to a safe location as quickly as possible.
- 3. sediment (SEHD-eh-mint)** *noun*; Sediment is the sand, dirt, and other matter that settles at the bottom of a body of water or a container of fluid. Mud at the bottom of a lake is sediment. The bits of orange that you find at the bottom of your glass of orange juice are sediment too.
- 4. spawn (spawn)** *verb or noun*; To spawn is to lay eggs in water. Most aquatic animals—fish, crabs, squid, frogs, etc.—spawn to reproduce. As a noun, *spawn* refers to the eggs themselves.

Directions: On the back of this page, list any other words from the articles whose definitions you are not sure about. For each word, use context clues to try to figure out the meaning. Then look up the word in a few different dictionaries. Discuss the meaning of the word with your teacher or another adult. Last, write a definition for the word and one example sentence using the word.

Vocabulary Practice

Paired Texts

Directions: Underline the boldfaced word in each pair that best completes each sentence.

1. The **sediment/regulation** at the bottom of the pond squished between Taylor's toes.
2. Laura is looking for a **humane/vigilant** way to deal with the skunks under her porch. She doesn't want to harm the skunks, but she doesn't want them to live under her porch either.
3. Anton noticed that the frogs in his pond had **spawned/become insatiable**. There were clumps of frog eggs floating in the water.
4. A water lily is an **aquatic/imperative** plant that roots in the **sediment/spawn** of ponds and has flowers that float on the surface of the water.

Directions: For each statement below, fill in the circle to show whether you think it's true or false. Briefly explain your choice.

5. A caterpillar is part of an ecosystem.

☐ true ☐ false

Reason: _____

6. Palm trees are native to Antarctica.

☐ true ☐ false

Reason: _____

7. A farmer would want an invasive species on his or her land.

☐ true ☐ false

Reason: _____

Directions: Choose the word or phrase that is most similar in meaning to each word in bold.

8. **vigilant**

☐ careless ☐ observant

9. **imperative**

☐ important ☐ optional

10. **insatiable**

☐ fulfilled ☐ unsatisfied

11. **humane**

☐ mean ☐ gentle

12. **regulation**

☐ requirement ☐ speech