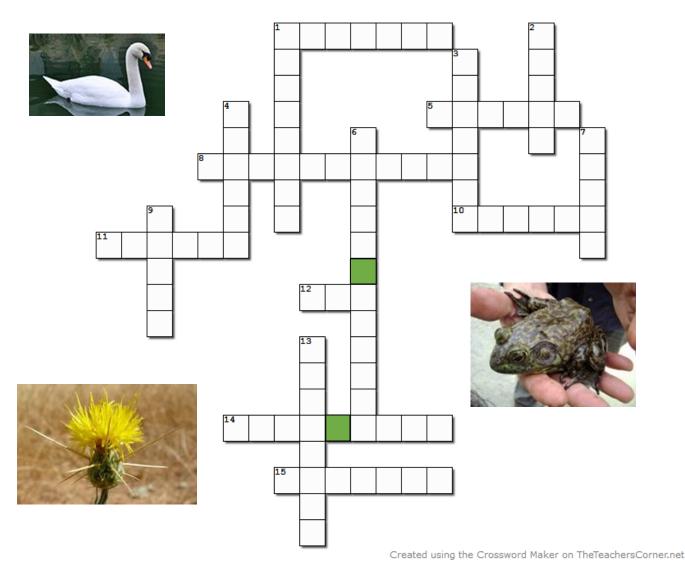


## Be An Invasive Species Detective





Use the clues in both boxes below to fill in the squares above (solution on next page)

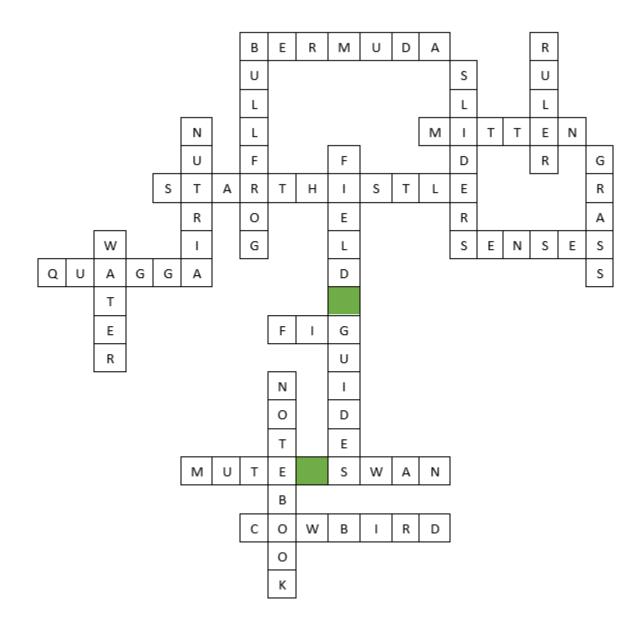
## ACROSS

- 1. Invasive creeping grass often seen in lawns
- 5. Crab from China with very hairy claws
- 8. Spiny Yellow flowered plant
- 10. You have five of these to help you experience your surroundings
- 11. These freshwater mussels shouldn't be moved
- 12. Tree whose fruit is found in cookies
- 14. Graceful waterbird with "S" shaped neck (two words)
- 15. Brown-headed bird that lays their eggs in other bird's nests

## Down

- 1. This frog has a very large tympanum
- 2. Instrument used to measure length
- 3. These red-eared reptiles can spread disease
- 4. Aquatic invasive rodent with orange teeth
- Special books used to identify plants or animals (two words)
- 7. This type of carp was used for aquatic plant control
- 9. Hyacinth that has showy purple flowers and growth that clogs waterways
- 13. This book will hold your observation notes

## **Puzzle Solution**



Learn more about these invasive species and the clues to identify them on the next pages.

Invasive Species		Clues	Resources
	Nutria <i>Myocastor coypus</i>	Lives in or near water Obvious white whiskers Dark ears with lighter fur below Round, rat-like tail The size of a smaller dog (Beagle or Corgi)	https://wildlife.ca.gov/Cons ervation/Invasives/Species/ Nutria/Infestation
	Mute swan Cygnus olor	Large white, water bird Neck arched into "S" shape Orange bill Long tail feathers	https://wildlife.ca.gov/Cons ervation/Invasives/Species/ Mute-Swan
	Brown-headed cowbird <i>Molothrus ater</i>	Smaller than other blackbirds Shorter tail than other blackbirds Stout bill	https://wildlife.ca.gov/Cons ervation/Invasives/Species/ Cowbird
	American bullfrog Lithobates catesbeianus	Large frog (can weigh over 2 lbs and reach lengths over 8 inches) Large eardrum (tympanum) Smooth skin – green to brown color on their backs, white/grey/yellow bellies	https://wildlife.ca.gov/Cons ervation/Invasives/Species/ Bullfrog
	Grass carp Ctenopharyngodon idella	Freshwater fish Oblong body with a wide head Olive-brown on backs, and white to yellow bellies	https://wildlife.ca.gov/Cons ervation/Invasives/Species/ Grass-Carp
	Chinese mitten crab <i>Eriocheir sinensis</i>	Medium sized (3 inch maximum) Hairy, mitten like claws Four lateral spines on each side of their carapace	https://wildlife.ca.gov/Cons ervation/Invasives/Species/ Mitten-Crab
	Red-eared slider Trachemys scripta elegans	Freshwater turtle Top shell and skin are olive to brown with yellow stripes Thick red stripe behind the eyes	https://wildlife.ca.gov/Cons ervation/Invasives/Species/ Redeared-Slider
	Quagga mussel Dreissena rostrifomis bugensis	Freshwater bivalve Dark concentric rings on shell Will not sit flat on bottom side of shell Shell gets paler in color near the hinge	https://wildlife.ca.gov/Cons ervation/Invasives/Quagga- Mussels
	Yellow starthistle Centaurea solstitialis	Gray-green to blue-green plant Yellow flowers with sharp spines at their base Cottony wool covers stems and leaves	http://ipm.ucanr.edu/PMG/ PESTNOTES/pn7402.html
	Water hyacinth Eichhornia crassipes	Freshwater habitat Plants can grow to 3 feet in height Forms large mats in waterway Six blue-purple petals with yellow patch on uppermost petal.	https://plantright.org/invasi ve/eichhornia-crassipes/

Invasive Species		Clues	Resources
	Bermuda grass Cynodon dactylon	Grey-green blades Creeps along ground with roots and stolons	http://ipm.ucanr.edu/PMG/ PESTNOTES/pn7453.html
	Edible fig Ficus carica	Tree trunk has smooth grey bark Fragrant, deeply lobed leaves Fruit varies from oval to pear shaped	https://www.cal- ipc.org/resources/library/pu blications/ipcw/report50/

Photo Credits:

Nutria – Joyce Gross, UC Berkeley Mute swan- Cathie Vouchilas, CDFW Brown-headed cowbird – Talula Barbee and Bonnie Johnson, Orange County Water District American bullfrog - *Kerwin Russell, Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District.* Grass carp – Michigan Sea Grant Chinese mitten crab - CDFW, stock photo Quagga mussel, adult - Photo by Amy Benson; U.S. Geological Survey Yellow starthistle - © 2004 Carol W. Witham Water hyacinth - © 2015 Barry Breckling Bermuda grass - © 2001 Tony Morosco Edible fig - Rebekah D. Wallace, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org