

# INVASIVE SPECIES IN OUR FORESTS

Activity & Colouring Book



Canadian Council  
on Invasive Species

Conseil Canadien des  
Espèces Envahissantes

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# Welcome to **Invasive Species in our Forests!**

This resource contains activities that will help you learn about invasive species, particularly those that impact forest ecosystems, and highlight ways you can help prevent their spread.

Here are some definitions for you:

***Native Species:*** A species that naturally **occurs** in an area. A native plant, for example, is a plant that has lived and evolved in a certain place for a long time (i.e. thousands of years) and is part of the natural ecosystem.

***Non-Native but Non-Invasive Species:*** Not all **introduced** species are invasive – many ornamental plants such as roses and tulips won't survive outside of gardens. Other introduced species such as tomatoes and wheat are beneficial food resources.

***Invasive Species:*** Invasive species are non-native species that cause economic or environmental harm, and can spread rapidly to new areas.

## **Invasive Species Characteristics:**

There are four main distinguishing features of invasive species:

- they are usually prolific seed producers,
- their seeds spread easily and effectively,
- they establish and spread quickly,
- they lack natural predators and diseases that keep them under control in their native locations.

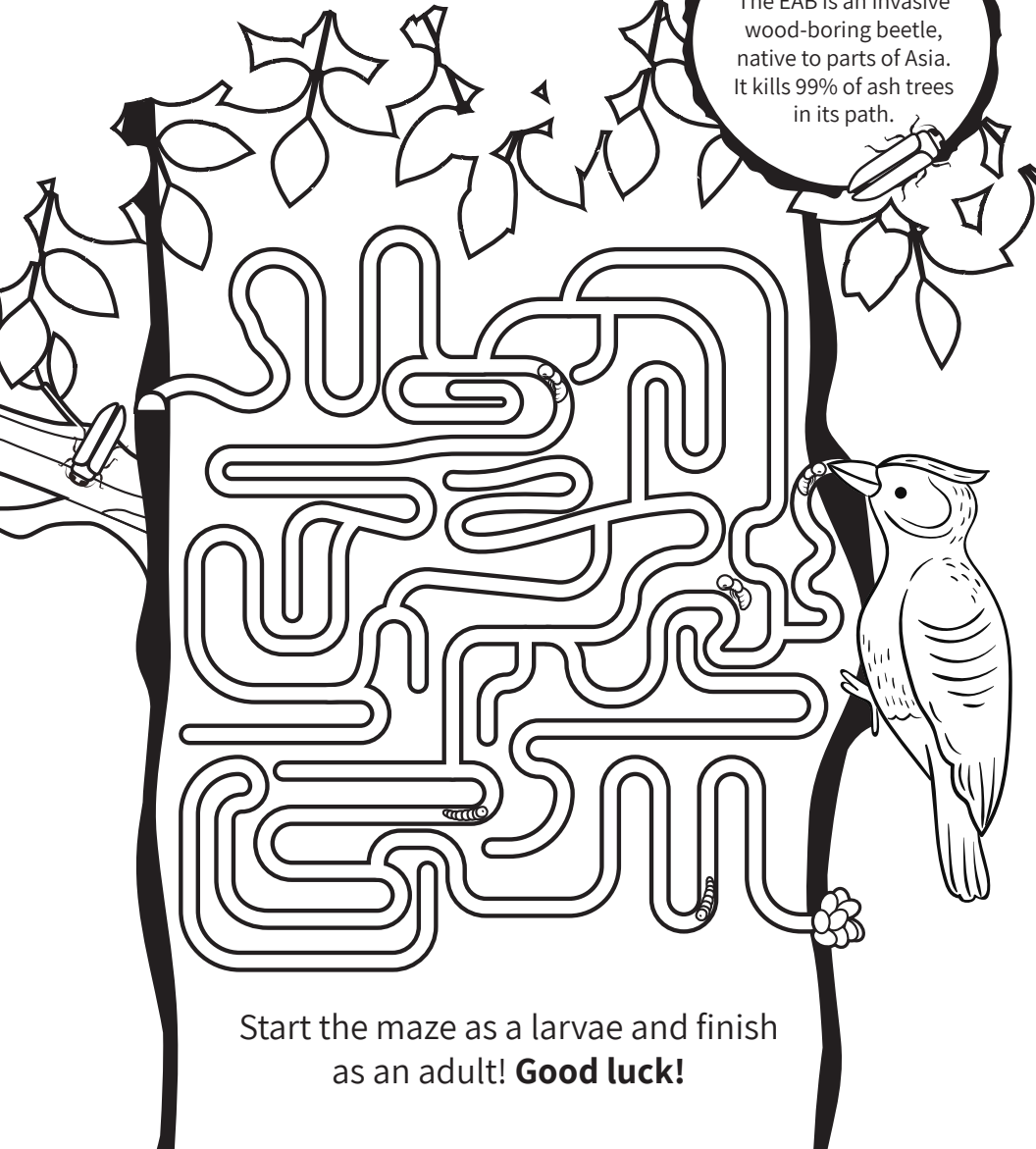
## **We hope you enjoy learning about invasive species in our forests!**

# A Bug's Life (Cycle)

The female emerald ash borer (EAB) lays an egg. When the egg hatches, a larvae emerges. The larva burrows into the tree, where it begins to feed and develop under the bark. As it feeds, it makes S-shaped tunnels. Eventually the larvae turns into a pupa and then an adult EAB. The adult EAB chews through the bark and escapes, leaving behind a D-shaped exit hole that's about 1 cm across.

## Did you know?

The EAB is an invasive wood-boring beetle, native to parts of Asia. It kills 99% of ash trees in its path.



Start the maze as a larvae and finish as an adult! **Good luck!**

# Forest Finds

## An ABC Scavenger Hunt!



Look closely as you walk through your natural area for items that match the alphabet list below. Some examples are provided but search for and list as many things beginning with each letter as you can find. **Let the searching begin!**

<b>A</b>  Acorn, Ant	<b>B</b>  Bark, Bee	<b>C</b>  Cone, Cloud	<b>D</b>  Dandelion, Daisy
<b>E</b>  Egg, Earthworm	<b>F</b>  Feather, Fern	<b>G</b>  Grass, Grasshopper	<b>H</b>  Holes in tree trunk, Hawk
<b>I</b>  Insect activity (e.g. holes, tunnels)	<b>J</b>  Jay	<b>K</b>  Key (a Maple “key” or winged seed)	<b>L</b>  Leaves, Lichen
<b>M</b>  Mushroom, Moss	<b>N</b>  Needle (evergreen), Nest	<b>O</b>  Oak tree, Owl	<b>P</b>  Puddle, Petal
<b>Q</b>  Question you have, Quiet spot	<b>R</b>  Rotting log, Root	<b>S</b>  Soil, Spider web	<b>T</b>  Trunk of a tree, Toadstool
<b>U</b>  “Umbrella” leaf	<b>V</b>  Vine, Variety of colours (list 6 different ones)	<b>W</b>  Wildlife (what kinds did you see?), Water	<b>X,Y,Z</b>  Experience Sounds list 3 you heard!



## Draw a picture of your favourite Forest Finds!

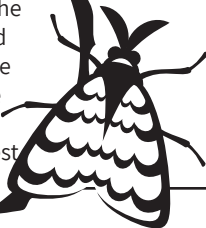


### **Did you know?**

The Asian longhorned beetle attacks and kills maple trees, which are widespread across natural and urban areas in Canada.

### **Did you know?**

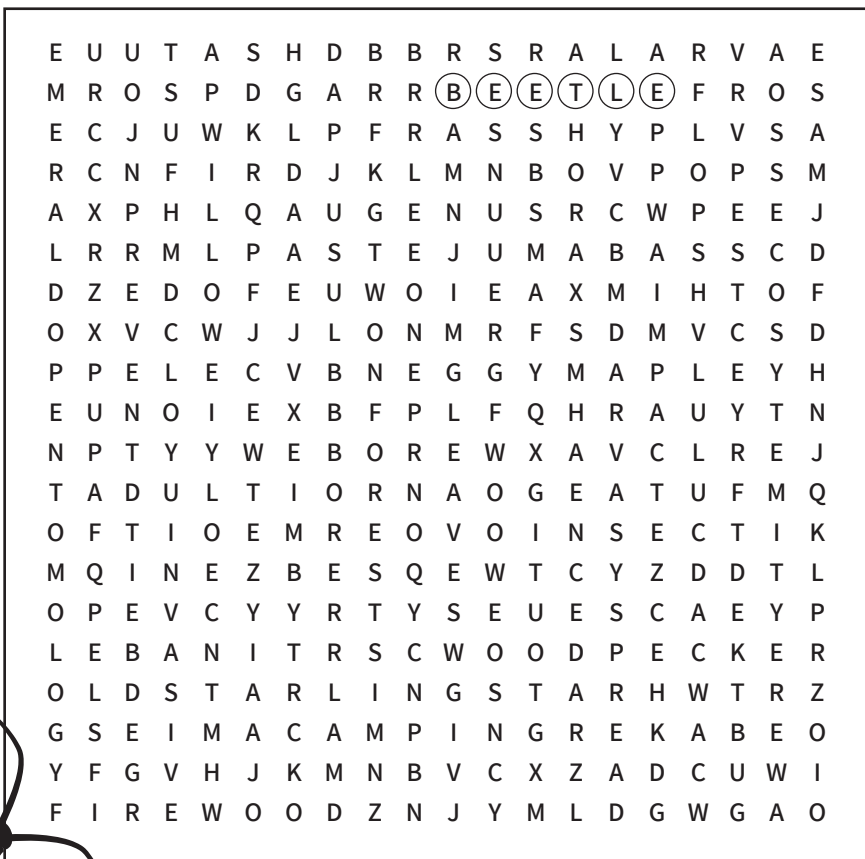
The European gypsy moth is native to Europe, and the larvae (caterpillars) feed on leaves of a wide range of hardwood and some softwood trees, which makes gypsy moth a forest pest of concern.





# Pest Detective!

Find the 30 words hidden in the word search below!



Beetle-  
Thorax  
Egg  
Borer  
Genus  
Spread  
Larvae  
Adult

Frass  
Pupa  
Ash  
Firewood  
Maple  
Leaves  
Willow  
Emerald

Invasive  
Pest  
Woodpecker  
Forests  
Impact  
Camping  
Cedar  
Entomology

Prevent  
Starling  
Ecosystem  
Bug  
Fir  
Insect







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