



# NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC Reach



## NEWSLETTER

Level E | Unit 5

### Dear Family Member,

“When do harmless things become harmful?” That is the big question we are exploring in this unit. To answer it, we are reading, writing, and talking about living things that move in and take over ecosystems. Be a part of our exploration! With your student, read the New Words on the next page. Then follow these directions.

### Directions:

1. Talk together about the plants growing in your neighborhood. Which grow wild? Which are grown on purpose? Share what you know. Try to use some of the New Words in your discussion.
2. Using the space below, work together to make a list of plants in your neighborhood. In the first column, name or describe the plant. In the second column, write whether the plant grows wild or on purpose.
3. Remind your student to bring the completed list to class.

### What We're Reading

#### “The Fungus That Ate My School”

by Arthur Dorros

In this humorous story, a school science experiment gets out of control.

#### “Mold Terrarium”

This science experiment shows how mold can grow on food.

#### “Aliens from Earth”

by Mary Batten

This science text explains how living things from one ecosystem can take over another.

#### “Island Observations”

by Dr. Christy Finlayson

Through her journal, Explorer Christy Finlayson observes non-native species.

**And more!**

**What is the name of the plant?**

**Is it wild or grown on purpose?**

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# New Words

## Weeks 1 and 2

contain

experiment

spore

control

humid

spread

decompose

investigate

environment

mold

## Weeks 3 and 4

balance

invade

species

competition

migration

threatened

habitat

native

introduce

population