

ILLUSTRATED BY

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SPECIAL THANKS TO

My parents, friends, and Ringling Professors

For their endless support and words of encouragement for this project.

WHAT is an invasive species?

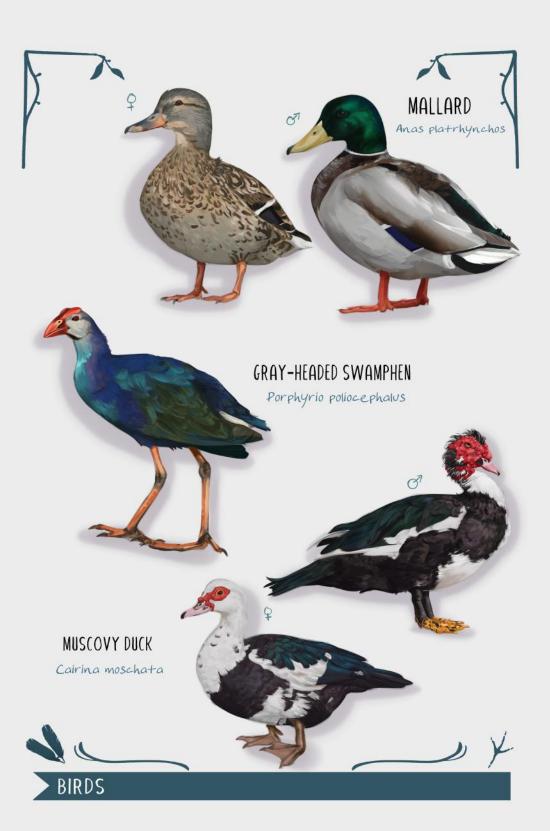
An invasive species is an organism that causes ecological or economic harm in a new environment where it is not native. https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/invasive.html

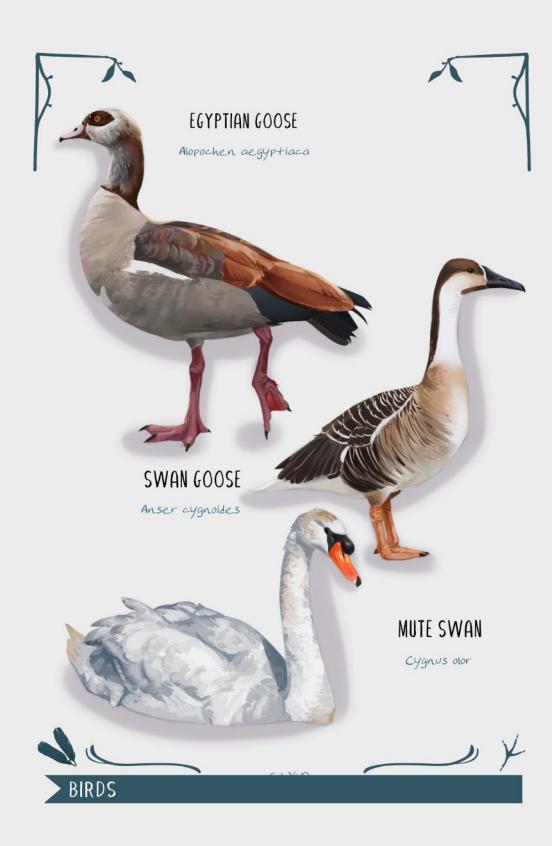
HOW do species become invasive?

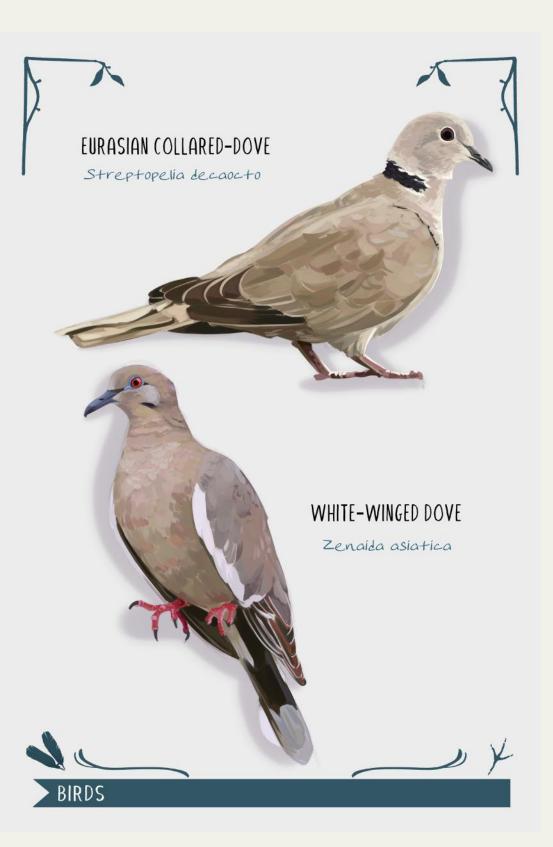
These organisms arrive in new areas through anthropogenic means; human travel, importing goods such as produce, ornamental plants, bringing in non-native species as a form of pest control, and worst of all, the exotic pet trade. Either these organisms stealthily ride along with people or produce on planes and boats, or humans trap and import animals that would be sold as pets. The pets then have a good chance of escaping or being released.

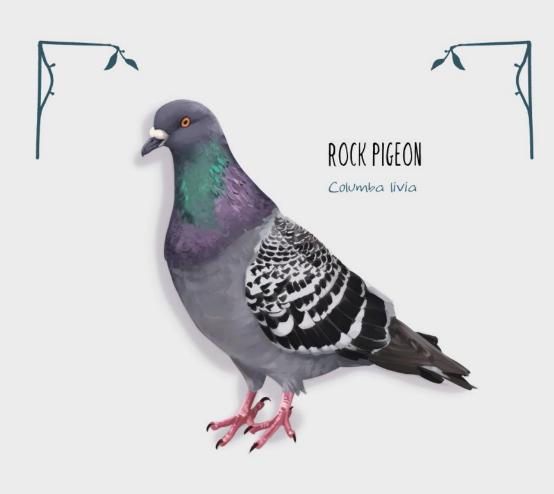
WHY is it important to deal with invasive species?

Nonnative species can cause great ecological (and economical) damage to the area they have established themselves in. They push out native species and throw off the balance of the environment, leading to devastation and local extinction of native species.









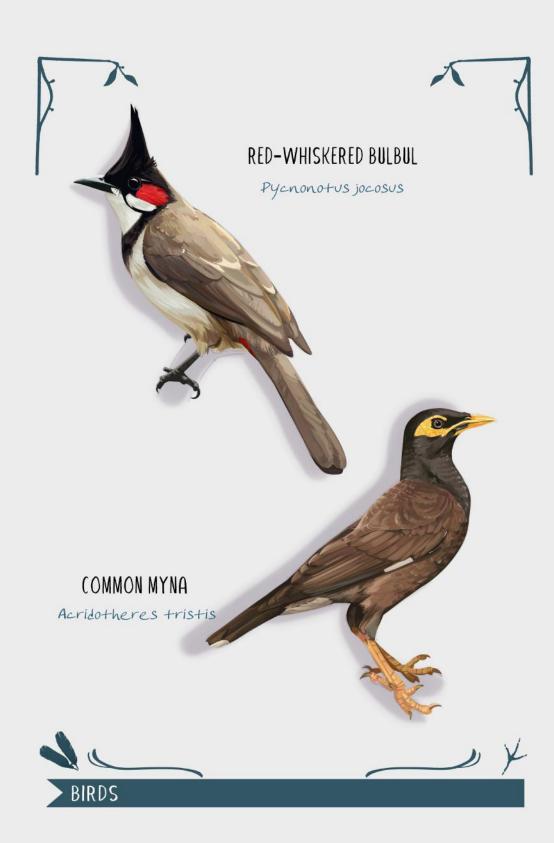
NATIVE DOVES:



COMMON GROUND DOVE





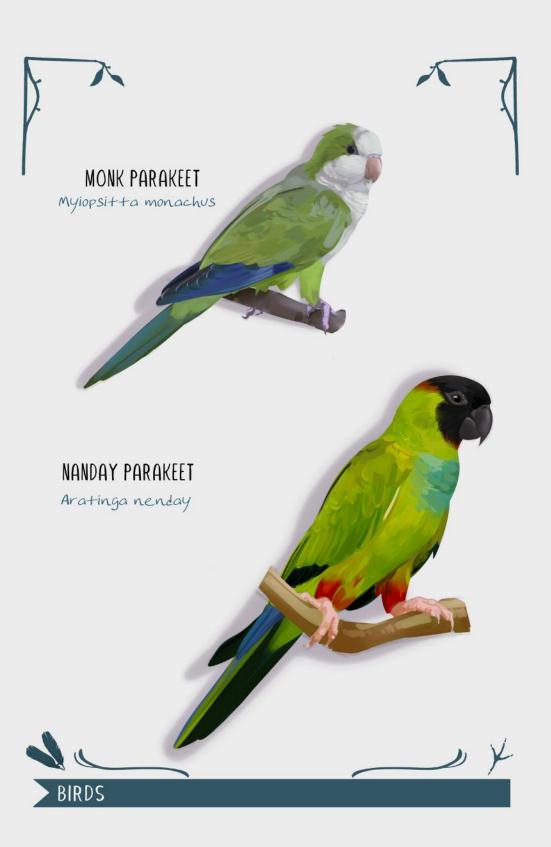


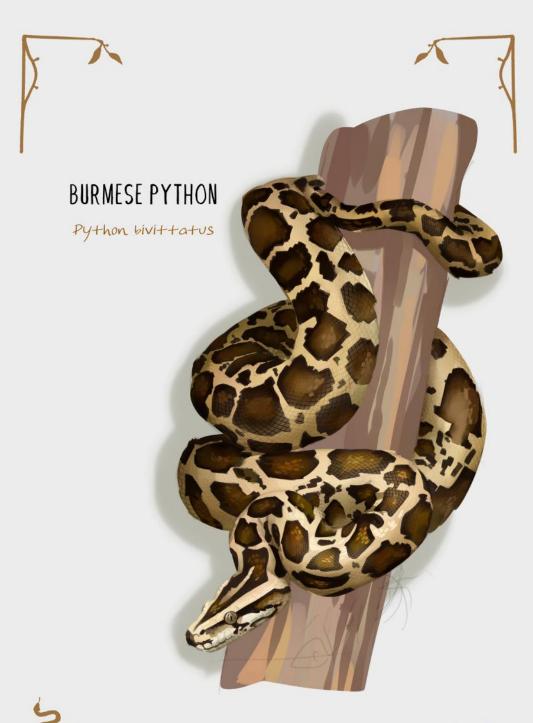


INDIAN PEAFOWL Pavo cristatus















Boa constrictor



GREEN ANACONDA

Eunectes murinus









SPECTACLED CAIMAN

Caiman crocodilus





















CANE TOAD

Rhinella marina



Eleutherodactylus planirostris

SEE AN INVASIVE SPECIES IN YOUR LOCAL ECOSYSTEM?

You can report sightings of invasive species to the Invasive Species Hotline at 1-888-483-4681 or visit IveGot1.org to help conserve the environment.

