



# Invasive Investigators

Class Discussion &  
Independent Activity Booklet



## Lesson Name: That's Sus! – Suspect: Emerald Ash Borer

**Outcome:** Building on “1. Sneaky Stowaways”, this lesson will help students to describe how their personal actions help conserve PEI’s natural re-sources by exploring an important behavioural program that protects PEI’s forests.

### Preparations:

- A screen to play the YouTube video for your class, Length—4 minutes.  
Video: [The Nature Walk: Understanding the Life Cycle of the EAB](#)
- Print activity booklet, enough for each student.  
Booklet: [Plant Health Hero](#)

- Start a conversation by asking students if they know what wood makes the best baseball bat? The best bats in the world are made of white ash trees, because ash wood is strong and very light! Inform students that the Mi’kmaq people lived on PEI for over 12,000 thousand years and used black ash trees to make traditional woven baskets. Ash trees are also very important for the environment but they are at risk!
- Introduce the crime: Ash trees across Canada are being killed by an invasive alien insect. It has not arrived in PEI yet but it is close, we must learn how to look for evidence of this species so we can catch it early if it does arrive!
- Introduce the alien perp: This insect is smaller than a dime and is shiny and green. It leaves clues on the tree it’s eating, lets watch a video together to learn how to recognize this insect. Video.
- Pass out “Plant Health Hero” document. And have a brief chat about Emerald Ash Borer and how its not here yet on PEI and highlight what actions we can take to keep it from coming here. If you go camping in the summer, get your wood from PEI and as close to the bonfire as possible.



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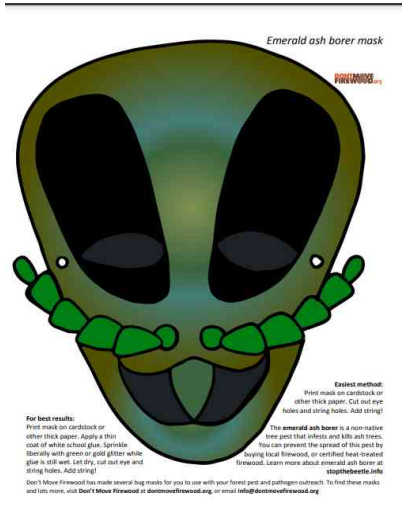
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**Build on this lesson by having students create their own invasive suspect mask.**

Emerald ash borer:  
<https://www.dontmovefirewood.org/resources/emerald-ash-borer-colored-mask/>

Spongy moth:  
<https://www.dontmovefirewood.org/resources/spongy-moth-colored-in-masks/>

Asian longhorned beetle:  
<https://www.dontmovefirewood.org/resources/asian-longhorned-beetle-colored-mask/>



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The video in this lesson are the property and design of the [United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service](http://United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service) the activity sheet is property of the [Canadian Food Inspection Agency](http://Canadian Food Inspection Agency). The masks are sourced from [Dontmovefirewood.org](http://Dontmovefirewood.org). These materials were compiled in this lesson to help supplement it with details on local habitats, native wildlife, local invasive species concerns and Canadian behaviour programs.