

Module 1 ~ Silent Invaders (UE/MS)
Magnify It! Answer Key (air potato)



STEMS & ROOTS: Use magnifier and *Illustrated Plant Structures - Stems and Roots* to complete the card.

Common name: air potato

Scientific name: Dioscorea bulbifera

Type of stem: _____ Diameter of stem: _____

- crown (short)
- simple (no branches)
- branched (has branches or sidegrowths)
- climbing (needs support; a vine)
- creeping (rests on ground; roots at nodes)
- rhizome (roots below ground)
- stolon (along surface; roots at node)

Are there nodes on the stem? If yes, then describe:

Are there buds? _____ Describe: _____

Find midrib on the blade (leaf). Is it in the center? yes

Does the leaf have a sheath? _____ Yes No

Circle type of root: tuber bulb bulblet bulbil corm
fibrous roots grow from tuber and often

Other/describe: product additional tubers on those roots

To check answers refer to individual plant information cards:
Invasive and Non-Native Plants You Should Know--Recognition Cards (or Flash Cards) ~ plants.ifas.ufl.edu/education

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LEAVES: Use magnifier and *Illustrated Glossary of Leaf Shapes* to complete the card.

Common name: air potato

Scientific name: Dioscorea bulbifera

Circle one: native non-native invasive

leaf (blade) shape: ovate or heart shaped

leaf tip: acuminate

leaf margin: smooth

leaf base: cordate

leaf attachment: long stalked

leaf arrangement: alternate

plant habit: herbaceous high climbing vine

Field Notes: The stem twins counterclockwise
 aerial tubers occur in the leaf axils

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