

[gpb.org/lets-go-enviro](https://www.gpb.org/education/lets-go-enviro) Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**IDENTIFYING SPECIES TYPE**

**DIRECTIONS:** Use the information and clues in the boxes below to determine if the species is a native, endangered, endemic, indicator, invasive, or keystone species. Be sure to underline evidence from each passage that supports your answer.

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| Mayflies are a type of macroinvertebrate insect that is especially sensitive to water pollution. As a juvenile, they live exclusively in the water. Adults live on land or in the air but return to the water to lay eggs. These insects are used by researchers to study the health of aquatic ecosystems because of their dependence on water and their pollution intolerance. | Species type: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| The gopher tortoise is a species of tortoise that is found in the southeastern United States. It digs burrows that provide shelter for at least 360 other animal species. The burrows are used for feeding, resting, reproduction, and protection from temperature extremes, moisture loss, and predators. | Species type: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| The gray bat is a species of microbat endemic to North America. It once flourished in caves all over the southeastern United States, but due to human disturbance, gray bat populations declined severely during the early and mid-portion of the 20th century. Direct human disturbance and vandalism is the major factor leading to population decline in gray bats. During the 1960s, bats were killed for entertainment purposes as they emerged from caves or were caught to be used for pranks. Many property-owners attempted to exterminate entire colonies due to unsubstantiated fears that the bats may be carrying rabies. Today, ninety-five percent of gray bats now hibernate in only 15 caves. | Species type: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| The Etowah darter is a rare freshwater fish that is only found in Georgia's Etowah River and two of its tributaries. | Species type:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| The loblolly pine tree is commonly found in Georgia and the Southeastern United States. For its timber, the pine species is regarded as the most commercially important tree in the Southeastern U.S. The common name loblolly is given because the pine species is found mostly in lowlands and swampy areas. | Species type:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| The boll weevil is a beetle that feeds on cotton buds and flowers. Thought to be native to Central Mexico, it migrated into the United States from Mexico in the late 19th century and had infested all U.S. cotton-growing areas by the 1920s, devastating the industry and the people working in the American South. | Species type:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |