



## Unit 2 Lesson 1: Before You Spray, Try Another Way

### Izzy's Message

Handout 1

#### Tune: You Are My Sunshine

My name is Izzy. I'm a Praying Mantis.  
I've come to tell you there's a better way  
To protect our farmlands, parks, yards and playgrounds  
Without using powders and sprays! 1

We share our planet with many others.  
Some are friendly, but some are foes.  
We must control pests in a healthy manner,  
So beneficials can prosper and grow. 2

When we have a problem, a pest invasion,  
We don't just reach for a chemical spray.  
We consider our choices; try other options.  
That's called the IPM way. 3

First, we study the existing problem.  
Who are these pests that have invaded our space?  
Do their numbers threaten? Must we take action  
To rid the pest from this place? 4

Next, we get to know them, their habits and  
Lifestyles; what they eat and what else they need.  
Can we control this? Remove the problem?  
Whether plant, animal or disease! 5

Cut off their food source, provide NO water,  
Clean up all places foes can roost or nest,  
Plug points of entry to prevent invasion.  
These actions may prove to be best! 6

Can we remove them by digging or picking,  
Or introducing a natural control?  
Whatever we can do to avoid toxins  
We should try; chemicals take a toll! 7

You can help yourself avoid some pest problems:  
Protective clothing prevents stings and bites,  
And germs don't thrive on clean hands and bodies.  
Take precautions to win the pest fight! 8

When only poisons will combat pest problems,  
Select this weapon with thought and care,  
Read the label; follow all directions.  
With pesticides, the word is BEWARE! 9

Our friends and families, woodlands and waters  
Need pest protection each and every day.  
We should try to help them without polluting.  
It's called the IPM way! 10

