Beach Bingo

Overview:
Help students discover their natural surroundings by playing an interactive game of bingo with items that can be found at your beach or shoreline. The game may elicit discussion regarding plastic pollution depending on what items you choose to include on the bingo board.

Ocean Literacy Principles:
4. The ocean made Earth habitable
5. The ocean supports a great diversity of life and ecosystems
6. The ocean and humans are inextricably interconnected
7. The ocean is largely unexplored

Materials:
• Wood board or poster board (25” x 25”)
• Markers or paint
• Variety of coastal/beach items or play at the beach

Set-up Prior to Activity:
1. On the wood or poster board, create a grid with 5 rows and 5 columns - which will be 5” x 5” squares, as shown to the right.
2. In each square, write the name of an item that can be found on the beach and/or include a corresponding picture. Here is a list, which can be modified based on what is found at your local beach or shoreline:
Beach Bingo (cont.)

- Crab claw
- Bay scallop shell
- Blue mussel shell
- Sea glass
- Crab carapace
- Feather
- Jingle shell
- Manmade plastic
- Manmade rope
- Irish moss seaweed
- Driftwood
- Sand
- Periwinkle shell
- Quahog shell
- Slipper shell
- Ribbed mussel shell
- Wishing rock
- Dead man’s fingers seaweed
- Sea star
- Sea lettuce
- Skate egg case
- Horseshoe crab molt
- Whelk shell
- Whelk egg case
- Oyster shell

On the last pages, there are images of the items to print out and place on the board. You can create one board or multiple boards with objects in different squares.

**Duration:**
60-90 minutes

**Physical Activity:**
Moderate

**Activity:**
Part 1 – Introduction to the Beach

Begin the activity with a verbal “brainstorm” about what type of items may be found along the shoreline. If you have a whiteboard, make a list. Are the items living? Non-living? This activity helps students connect with nature and learn how to identify items found along the shoreline.

Part 2 – Play Beach Bingo

1. As a large group with one bingo board or in smaller groups with multiple bingo boards, students can search the shoreline and beach for items on the bingo board. Before you start the game, you can discuss the items on the board.
2. The goal is to find five items in a row or in a diagonal.
3. If you are unable to go to a beach with your students, hide items around the classroom and play the same way.

Bonus: Challenge the students to find all of the items to cover the entire board.

**Discussion:**
As a group, discuss the following questions:

- Were you able to find all of the items on the bingo board?
- Which items were easiest to find? Which were the most challenging? Why?
• Were there items on the beach that were not on the bingo board? Could you identify them?
• Did you find any manmade items? Was any marine life growing on them? How would you prevent those items from reaching the shoreline?

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Beach Bingo (cont.)

- Sea Star
- Bay Scallop Shell
- Blue Mussel Shell
- Sea Glass
- Crab Carapace
- Feather
JINGLE SHELL

MANMADE PLASTIC

MANMADE ROPE

IRISH MOSS SEAWEED

DRIFTWOOD

SAND

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