



# BEACH BINGO

This lesson plan developed by:



## 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.

## Materials:

- Wood board or poster board (25" x 25")
- Markers to write names of items or print out pictures
- Variety of coastal/beach items or access to a shoreline

## 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 locally:


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

# Beach Bingo (cont.)

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?

**Additional Resources:**

To learn more about the activity, check out our [Beach Bingo “how to” video](#).

**Ocean Literacy Principles:**

Ocean literacy is an understanding of the ocean’s influence on us, and our impact on the ocean. There are seven [Ocean Literacy Essential Principles](#) that all people of our blue planet should

## Beach Bingo (cont.)

have an opportunity to learn and understand. This activity touches upon the following Essential 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

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**CRAB  
CLAW**



**SEA  
STAR**



**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**





**SEA  
LETTUCE**



**SKATE  
EGG CASE**



**HORSESHOE  
CRAB MOLT**



**WHELK  
SHELL**



**WHELK  
EGG CASE**



**OYSTER  
SHELL**