

Beach Bingo

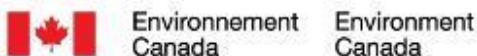


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Activity Name: Beach Bingo

Ages: 6-14

Activity Energy: Medium

Length of time: 45 minutes

Number of Participants: 10 - 30

Concept: This fun activity harnesses and focuses student energy on the beach into a learning experience. Students use full-colour bingo cards to find and identify local beach creatures. All photos were taken in the intertidal zone of Mayne Island, BC by Stephanie Hurst.

Materials Required: Three different versions of a full-colour bingo sheet are available and need to be printed and brought with you to the beach. See the resources attached to this lesson.

Introduction: Beach exploration is a great activity for students of any age, but sometimes they need just that little something to help them stay focused. We have had great success with promoting beach exploration with these bingo sheets. Make it a competition to see who can get bingo first!

Methods: Planning a trip to the beach starts with a visit to the Fisheries and Oceans website to see when you have a suitable low tide. There's nothing worse than getting to the beach only to find out there's no beach! Look here for the tide forecasts: <http://www.tides.gc.ca/eng/find/zone/9>

You can involve your students in choosing a day to go to the beach, get them to help you check the tides. We recommend visiting the beach at tides 2m or less, and the lower the better. Rocky beaches will contain more visible biodiversity for students to explore.

To help you prepare for your trip to the beach check out the lesson "Intertidal Exploration" where you will find slide shows to help introduce your class to some common beach inhabitants.

The bingo sheets are fairly self-explanatory; students must find the creatures in the picture, and when they find a full line worth of creatures they win. The middle square is for a creature of their choice, which they must find and sketch. There are three different versions of the bingo sheet for those who want to do it again.

Tips for Teachers:

- If students finish early, encourage them to see if they can find every creature on the whole sheet
- For a longer activity, have the students take photos and make their own bingo sheets
- Laminate the printed bingo cards and use dry erase markers, so that they can be used over and over
- Teach the students to turn rocks back over when they are done, and to never move rocks bigger than their heads