

Bingo

4 & up

Bingo is a 100 year old, simple of game of chance. It was first called *Beano*, perhaps because beans were used to keep score. If you are not familiar with bingo and how play go to - [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bingo_\(American_version\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bingo_(American_version))

We have provided 6 bingo cards that are ready to go, **Bird Bingo 1&2**, **Bird Bingo 3&4**, **Bingo - Squirrel and Bingo - Squirrel 2** (a sample of a homemade bingo card). Remember this is about connecting with nature and does not need to be a competition. You can encourage co-operative play by suggesting sharing sightings - if a child finds something they have already counted they may choose to share it with someone else. Work together on one card as a group or with each person using a different colour or mark.

Supplies: per person

- ⇒ Bingo card
- ⇒ clip board, or fashion one from cardboard and bulldog clip/clothes peg
- ⇒ crayon, pencil, something to mark off the items on the Bingo cards

Bingo can readily be adapted to all sorts of topics. Make your own Bingo challenges. Include all senses when you can. Encourage your children to create their own Bingo cards. Draw pictures (one copy for each card) on squares of paper and glue, in random order, on a grid template.

Here are a few ideas to get you started.

- spring flowers - different colours, number of petals, a flower with a smooth (toothed, spotted, lobed) leaf, a bud, a flower with a red (purple, yellow) stem, . . .
- crawling things - colours, legs (long, more than 8, none), 3 body parts, fuzzy, shiny, spots, stripes, long antennae, . . .

Other topics - shapes in nature, trees, colours, things animals eat and so on



Tip: A Bingo card can work for household chores! A full card wins the right to choose the day's book, or dessert . . .

