

# Backyard Bingo



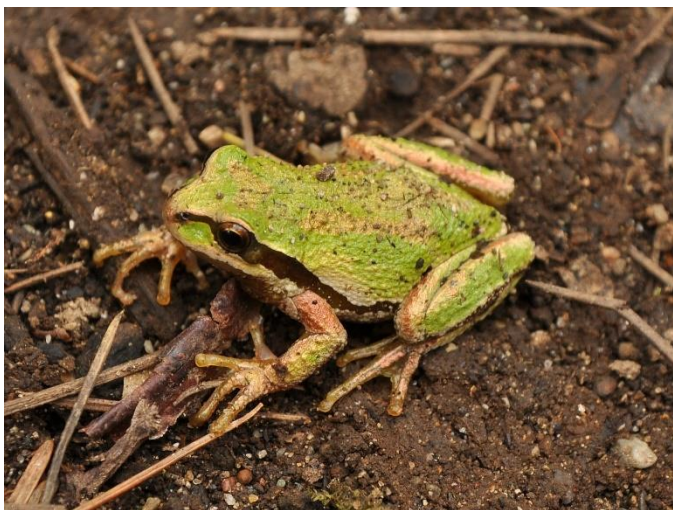
Created by Emily Branigan and Daniel Erwin

## Lesson Overview

This lesson is a nature exploration challenge! It is designed to get kids to spend some time outside examining the natural world around them while looking for critters that live in their backyard.

### Six Steps:

1. Observation
2. Brainstorm
3. Explore!
4. How to Play!
5. What did you find?
6. Reflection



## Notes for Parents/Teachers

- Parent should know the basic rules of bingo, and the kids may need help identifying “real life” different animals depending on age.

### Age Group:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup>

### Total Time Needed:

- 60 to 80 minutes

### Materials Needed

- Something to write with:
  - Pencil, pen, highlighter marker, something to mark off the animals you find.
  - Clipboard or something flat to write on.
  - The Backyard Bingo Printout:  
Click the link below to print bingo sheet:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/16jzvzB8cYgV2j-KA0KdSLsH2nsEB38qi/view>

See more from MOSS Adventure Learning at [moss.uidaho.edu/adventure](https://moss.uidaho.edu/adventure)

### Step 1: Observation

- Spend 5 minutes looking out your window.
- Make a list of every animal that you see in those 5 minutes.

How many animals did you see?

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What kinds of animals did you see? Birds? Insects? Squirrels?

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### Step 2: Brainstorm

- Take a moment to answer this question.

If I go outside and investigate, what other animals might I see?

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### Step 3: Explore!

- **Go outside!** You can go to your backyard, a local park, your sidewalk, etc. Just make sure to bring an adult with you.
- Spend 40 minutes playing Backyard Bingo
- Don't forget your materials!



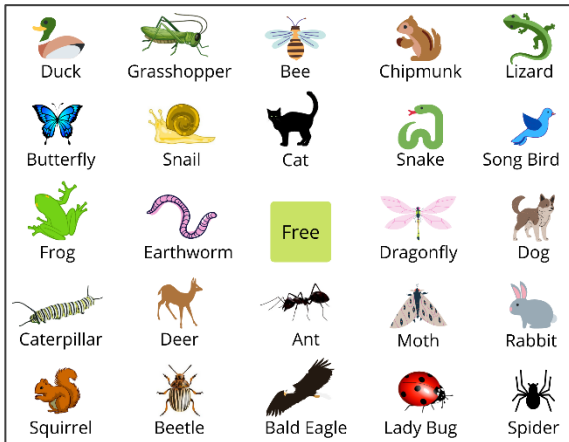
### Think about....

- What is an **animal**?
  - Mammals, reptiles, birds, amphibians, insects, fish, arachnids (spiders), and people!
  
- What does **brainstorm** mean?
  - Spend some time thinking about a question or problem. Write down any idea that you have, there are no bad ideas!

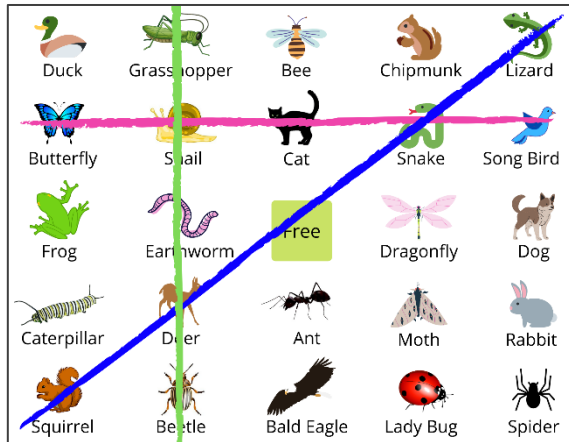
### Step 4: How to Play!

- Time for Bingo!
- Follow these steps:
  1. Using something flat to write on, place your Bingo sheet on top.
  2. Look at the critters on the sheet to get familiar with them.
  3. Now, go find as many as you can.
  4. Once you find an animal, mark it off by using one of the following:
    - a. Make a **X**
    - b. Circle it
    - c. **Highlight it**
  5. The object of bingo is to mark off as many animals as you can. Once you mark off an entire row, draw a line and **“Yell BINGO”**. Below are a few of the common ways to get a **“Bingo”**.
    - a. Straight line in an up and down direction
    - b. Straight line in right and left direction
    - c. Straight line in diagonal direction
  6. Look at the before and after examples below.

**Blank Bingo Sheet**



**Completed Bingo Sheet**



### Helpful Hints:

- Where do you find all these animals?
  - Remember to look in the trees, you may find a few animals there.
  - Do you like dig in the soil? If so, what might you find?
  - Some of these animals find flowers delightful.
  - You might find some smaller critters if you inspect the ground closely.

### Step 5: What did you find?

- Did you get a BINGO? YES or NO
- What animals did you find? Write them below

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- How were your BINGO findings different from what you thought you would find?

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- What was surprising about the critters you found during the BINGO activity?

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### Step 6: Reflection

- What was the most memorable thing you learned from this activity?

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- Spend a few moments drawing a picture of the place where you did this activity. Think about why you chose this place and why it is important to you.

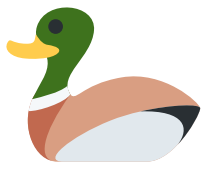


### Think about....

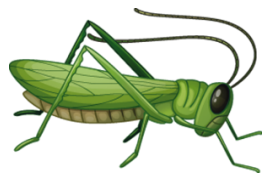
- This activity should be educational, but the primary focus is to get the kids active while outside and having fun. The learning comes naturally.

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Duck



Grasshopper



Bee



Chipmunk



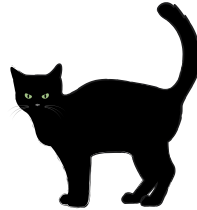
Lizard



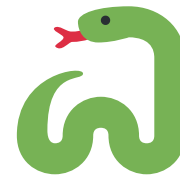
Butterfly



Snail



Cat



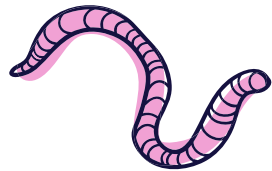
Snake



Song Bird



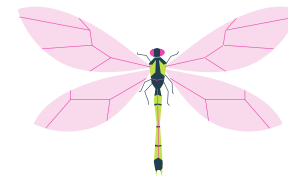
Frog



Earthworm



Free



Dragonfly



Dog



Caterpillar



Deer



Ant



Moth



Rabbit



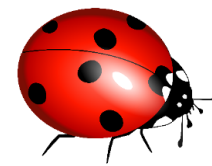
Squirrel



Beetle



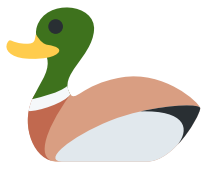
Bald Eagle



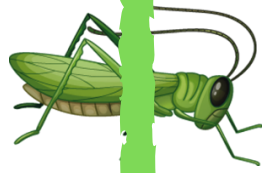
Lady Bug



Spider



Duck



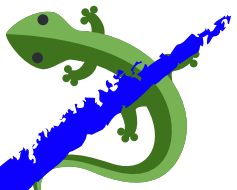
Grasshopper



Bee



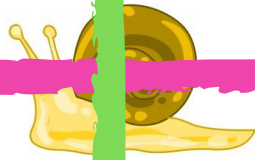
Chipmunk



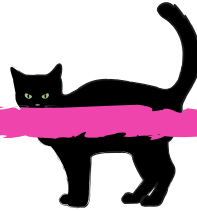
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Butterfly



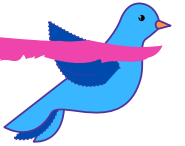
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Cat



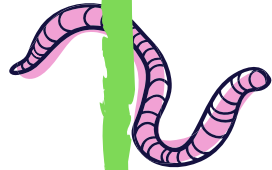
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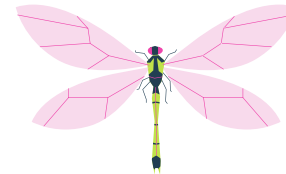
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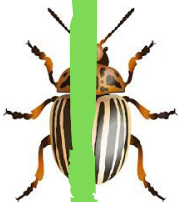
Moth



Rabbit



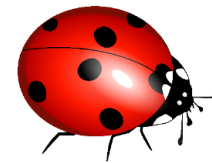
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