

POLLINATOR BINGO

- Primary, Lower Elementary
- 45 minutes
- Park advised location

OVERVIEW

In this experience, students will explore a set area of the park and use the BINGO card to identify a variety of pollinators.

After exploring, students will share where they located their BINGO pollinators and see if other students observed the same item. Students will then discuss similarities and differences in all observed pollinators. Guiding questions are available for further discussion.

SAFETY + SETTING

- Stay Calm and Move Slowly – Quick movements can startle pollinators. Encourage students to be still and quiet when watching them.
- Keep a Safe Distance – Teach students to observe from a few feet away and avoid touching or disturbing the pollinators or their nests/hives.



ACADEMIC STANDARDS

K.LS1.1 Use information from observations to identify the differences between plants and animals and how they live and grow.

1.LS2.3 Develop and use models to show how plants & animals depend on their surroundings and other living things to meet their needs in the places they live

POLLINATOR BINGO

ABOUT POLLINATORS

POLLINATORS are a diverse group of species that includes **birds, bees, butterflies, bats,** and **beetles**. They are critically important to life, and their numbers are in steady decline as a result of **habitat loss, pests, pathogens, pesticides,** and other stressors.

Pollinators visit flowers in their search for food (nectar and pollen). During a flower visit, a pollinator may accidentally brush against the flower's reproductive parts, unknowingly depositing pollen from flower to flower. The plant uses the pollen to produce a fruit or seed. **Many plants cannot reproduce without pollen carried to them by foraging pollinators.**

Three-fourths of the world's flowering plants and about 35 percent of the world's food crops depend on animal pollinators to reproduce. That's one out of every three bites of food you eat. More than 3,500 species of native bees help increase crop yields. **Some scientists estimate that one out of every three bites of food we eat exists because of animal pollinators like bees, butterflies and moths, birds and bats, and beetles and other insects.**



STEPS

- Select area(s) to explore
- Use the BINGO sheet to identify pollinators
- **RANGER TIP -** Sit quietly in an area for best observations

RETURN MATERIALS

Return laminated BINGO cards to park office. Feel free to keep unlaminated paper BINGO cards.

LEARN MORE

tnpollinators.org
usda.gov

Observation Questions - Differences in Plants & Animals

- What do plants need to grow?
- What do animals need to grow?
- How can you tell a plant from an animal?
- Do plants move from place to place? What about animals?
- What do you see on a flower that might help an animal (like a bee) find food?

Modeling & Relationships - How Plants & Animals Depend on Each Other

- Why do bees visit flowers?
- What do bees get from the flower?
- What do flowers get when a bee visits?
- What might happen if there were no bees to visit the flowers?
- What kind of home or place do bees need to live?
- How do flowers help bees?
- How do bees help plants make seeds or fruit?

Deeper Thinking & Real-Life Connection

- What foods do you eat that might grow from flowers?
- How do you think pollinators help give us food?
- Why do we need to take care of bees and butterflies?
- What would happen if there were fewer pollinators in the world?
- Can you draw a picture showing how a bee and a flower help each other?

POLLINATOR BINGO CARD

Wildflower



Bird



Butterfly



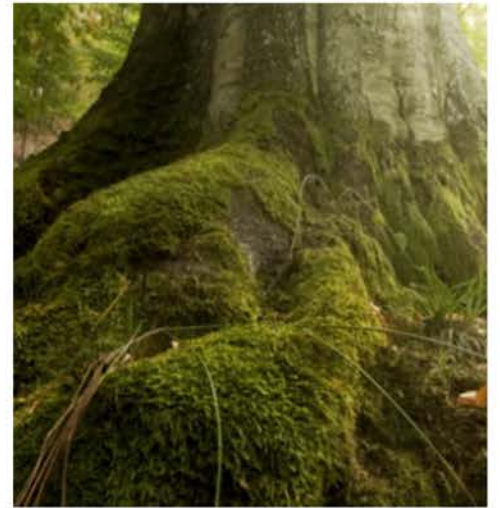
Bee



Beetle



Moss



Grasshopper



Wasp



Moth

