

# Backyard Nature Bingo

Backyard Nature Bingo introduces students to the plants and animals that are located right in their own backyards or immediately surrounding their homes. All plants and animals included in the game can be seen in yards and neighborhoods in Edmonds and surrounding areas. The Bingo game can be used as a traditional tabletop game, or can be taken outside to search for the plants and animals outdoors. It is intended to be played by ages 5 and up.

Materials you'll need:

- Bingo cards – printed and cut into cards
- Bingo Play Sheets—one per player, printed
- Markers— (dry beans, pennies, cheerios, etc.) to mark bingo sheet OR a crayon or pen

Directions for indoor play:

1. Shuffle cut Bingo cards into a stack
2. Hand out ONE Bingo Play Sheet per player.
3. Players take turns drawing a card and reading the nature fact out loud. Once the nature fact has been read, all players should place a marker on the corresponding square on their Bingo Play Sheet.
4. Use your markers to place on your bingo sheet with the appropriate square from the card you draw, each player has a free space in the center of the sheet. Once you have 5 spaces in a row yell “BINGO”. The first player to yell “BINGO” wins.

Directions for outdoor play:

1. Review the Bingo cards to learn about the plants and animals that you might find when you venture outdoors.
2. Grab a crayon or pen, your Bingo Play Sheet, and head outside to your yard and/or immediate neighborhood.
3. Stay together as you look for the plants and animals on the Bingo Play Sheet—once found cross them off the Play Sheet with a pen.
4. The first player to get 5 in a row will yell out “Bingo”.



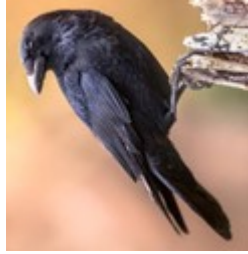
City of Edmonds Discovery Programs  
Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department  
700 Main Street Edmonds, WA 98020

### Douglas Squirrel



Douglas Squirrels are found in forests with lots of conifer trees. In winter they nest in tree crevices and woodpecker holes. They mainly eat pine seeds and also fungi, twigs, sap, leaves, buds, nuts, mushrooms, berries, fruit and eggs. They are highly vocal.

### American Crow



Crows are very adaptable and seen often. They live in open areas with trees, and nest near the top of conifer trees. They usually feed close to the ground and eat almost anything. Crows are smart and will sometimes make and use tools.

### Steller's Jay



Steller's Jays tend to stick to the high canopy and nest in conifer trees. They eat insects, seeds, berries, nuts, small animals, and eggs. They can mimic other animals, and objects. They can also be very noisy, 'scolding' people that come close to them.

### Conifer Tree



Conifer trees like pine and fir trees bear fruit called cones and very thin leaves called needles which stay on the tree year round. They provide habitat for many animals and can live for thousands of years. The oldest conifer trees are over 5,000 years old!

### Deciduous Tree



Deciduous trees lose their leaves every year. Before they fall, leaves may turn bright red, orange or yellow as nutrients move from the leaves to the roots of the tree. These trees provide food for many animals including people. Almonds come from this kind of tree.

### Garden Spider



Found in gardens, they're known as orb weavers because of the shape of their web. They eat mostly flying insects such as aphids, mosquitoes, grasshoppers, moths, wasps, bees, and flies, and help people by eating the insects that can damage plants and bite you.

### Tree Cavity



Tree cavities provide shelter for many animals including birds, bats, squirrels, and raccoons. They're also used by many different animals to store food. Tree cavities are made by other animals like woodpeckers, and happen in trees that have died and are starting to decay.

### Mountain Beaver



The world's most primitive living rodent, Mountain Beavers create extensive tunnel systems in forests. Like beavers, they gnaw through bark and cut off limbs, and eat a variety of plants including ferns, salal, nettles, fireweed, salmonberry, alders, and conifers.

### Snag



A snag is any dead or dying standing tree. They provide vital habitat for thousands of animals. By attracting insects, mosses, lichens and fungi they provide vital habitat for wildlife looking for food. Birds and small mammals also use them as perches.

### Centipede



Centipedes are invertebrates with 8000 species found across the world. They prefer dark and moist places hidden under rocks, leaves and inside rotting wood. They have 15-30 pairs of legs. They are nocturnal predators and hunt insects, spiders, and worms.

### Raccoon



The highly adaptable raccoon dens in abandoned burrows, under rock and brush piles, hollow logs, tree cavities, even under houses and in attics! They eat almost anything including clams, frogs, crayfish, snails, insects, small animals and more.

### Insect Holes



Many insects create holes and burrows in the ground or decaying wood. They can range from ants, bees, beetles, worms, centipedes, spiders and more. Often it is their shelter and also sometimes provides them with food as well.

### Pacific Tree Frog



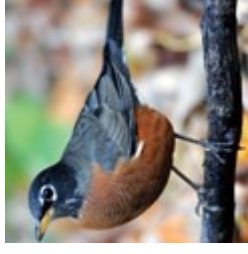
Found throughout Washington, Pacific Tree Frogs converge in ponds, streams, and wetlands during breeding season where they can be heard singing. They can change skin color quickly from light to dark to blend with their habitat. They eat spiders, beetles, and other insects.

### Feather



Feathers keep birds warm, protect them from injury and help them fly. Tail and wing feathers provide flight control while soft small feathers called down provide insulation. If you find a feather, you can often identify what bird it came from by its characteristics.

### American Robin



Very common, robins are seen in many different habitats. Robins eat lots of insects and fruit such as earthworms, insects, snails, chokecherries, hawthorn, dogwood and sumac fruits. They can often be seen hunting worms in suburban yards.

### Eastern Gray Squirrel



Common in urban settings, these squirrels spend most of their time in trees living in old woodpecker cavities or nests that they build out of leaves. They eat nuts, buds, tree bark, flowers, insects, berries, mushrooms, frogs, small rodents, eggs, and small birds.

### Pileated Woodpecker



Pileated Woodpeckers live in mature forests where they eat ants, insects, berries and nuts. They excavate large rectangular holes in tree trunks as they forage for food. They nest in cavities in large, dead standing trees. The entrance hole to their nest is oblong.

### Pill Bug



There are 12 species of pill bugs in the USA. They live in humid moist areas such as compost and rubble piles, leaf litter, and fallen logs. They eat dead vegetation, helping to return nutrients to the soil. They are nocturnal and will dehydrate and die without enough water.

### Flying Insect



There are hundreds of flying insects. They pollinate plants, eat other pest insects and clean up organic waste. Flying insects also feed many other species such as birds, amphibians, reptiles, mammals, other insects and spiders.

### Eastern Cottontail Rabbit



Cottontail Rabbits live in shallow ground nests on the fringes of open spaces such as fields and meadows. They eat grass, clover, wild flowers, weeds, buds, twigs, conifer needles, and almost any green plant.



### Pinecone



Almost always is the female cone which produces seeds that we see. They will open during dry weather and close during wet weather. Hundreds of small insects and organisms live in and on one cone, making it a habitat in itself.

### Garter Snake



Found in forests, wet meadows, yards and gardens, garter snakes can often be seen warming up in the open on a sunny day. These snakes will den in rodent burrows, under logs and tree stumps, rock crevices, and lumber and rock piles

### Earthworm



Burrowed in the ground close to the surface, they can dig down as deep as 6.5 feet! They eat soil as they burrow, and can eat a third of their body weight in a day. They help transport nutrients through the soil as they dig, and improve soil structure with their tunnels.

### Barred Owl



Barred Owls live in existing tree cavities in mixed forests, often near water. Roosting during the day and hunting by night, they eat many small animals such as squirrels, chipmunks, mice, voles, rabbits, birds, amphibians, reptiles, and invertebrates.

# Backyard Nature Bingo

Douglas Squirrel



American Crow



Steller's Jay



Conifer Tree



Deciduous Tree



Garden Spider



Tree Cavity



Mountain Beaver



Snag



Centipede



Raccoon



Insect Holes



FREE

Pacific Tree Frog



Feather



American Robin



Eastern Gray Squirrel



Pileated Woodpecker



Pill Bug



Flying Insect



Eastern Cottontail Rabbit



Pinecone



Garter Snake



Earthworm



Barred Owl





# Backyard Nature Bingo

|   |  |   |   |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <p>Deciduous Tree</p>  | <p>Conifer Tree</p>         | <p>American Crow</p>     | <p>Douglas Squirrel</p>       | <p>Steller's Jay</p>                |
| <p>Centipede</p>       | <p>Snag</p>                 | <p>Tree Cavity</p>       | <p>Garden Spider</p>          | <p>Mountain Beaver</p>              |
| <p>Feather</p>       | <p>Pacific Tree Frog</p>  | <p>FREE</p>   | <p>Raccoon</p>              | <p>Insect Holes</p>               |
| <p>Flying Insect</p>  | <p>Pill Bug</p>           | <p>American Robin</p>  | <p>Pileated Woodpecker</p>  | <p>Eastern Gray Squirrel</p>      |
| <p>Barred Owl</p>     | <p>Earthworm</p>          | <p>Pinecone</p>        | <p>Garter Snake</p>         | <p>Eastern Cottontail Rabbit</p>  |



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|  |   |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| <p>Tree Cavity</p>             | <p>Mountain Beaver</p>       | <p>Snag</p>               | <p>Centipede</p>        | <p>Eastern Cottontail Rabbit</p>  |
| <p>Insect Holes</p>            | <p>Pill Bug</p>              | <p>Pacific Tree Frog</p>  | <p>Feather</p>          | <p>Conifer Tree</p>               |
| <p>Eastern Gray Squirrel</p>  | <p>Pileated Woodpecker</p>  | <p>FREE</p>  | <p>Flying Insect</p>  | <p>Steller's Jay</p>             |
| <p>Pinecone</p>              | <p>Garter Snake</p>        | <p>Earthworm</p>        | <p>Barred Owl</p>      | <p>American Crow</p>            |
| <p>Deciduous Tree</p>       | <p>American Robin</p>      | <p>Raccoon</p>          | <p>Garden Spider</p>   | <p>Douglas Squirrel</p>         |



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|--|--|---|---|---|
| <p>Barred Owl</p>        | <p>Garden Spider</p>                | <p>Tree Cavity</p>   | <p>Mountain Beaver</p>        | <p>Snag</p>                |
| <p>American Crow</p>     | <p>Raccoon</p>                      | <p>Insect Holes</p>  | <p>Eastern Gray Squirrel</p>  | <p>Pacific Tree Frog</p>   |
| <p>Steller's Jay</p>    | <p>American Robin</p>              | <p>FREE</p>   | <p>Pileated Woodpecker</p>   | <p>Pill Bug</p>           |
| <p>Conifer Tree</p>    | <p>Eastern Cottontail Rabbit</p>  | <p>Pinecone</p>    | <p>Garter Snake</p>         | <p>Earthworm</p>         |
| <p>Deciduous Tree</p>  | <p>Centipede</p>                  | <p>Feather</p>     | <p>Flying Insect</p>        | <p>Douglas Squirrel</p>  |



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Garden Spider



Tree Cavity



Mountain Beaver



Snag



Centipede



Douglas Squirrel



American Crow



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# Backyard Nature Bingo

Eastern Cottontail Rabbit



Pinecone



Garter Snake



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American Robin



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|---|--|--|--|--|
| <p>American Crow</p>            | <p>Snag</p>                         | <p>Garter Snake</p>         | <p>Deciduous Tree</p>   | <p>Conifer Tree</p>         |
| <p>Tree Cavity</p>              | <p>Garden Spider</p>                | <p>Pileated Woodpecker</p>  | <p>Centipede</p>        | <p>Douglas Squirrel</p>     |
| <p>Insect Holes</p>           | <p>Raccoon</p>                    | <p>FREE</p>  | <p>Feather</p>        | <p>Pacific Tree Frog</p>  |
| <p>Eastern Gray Squirrel</p>  | <p>American Robin</p>             | <p>Steller's Jay</p>      | <p>Flying Insect</p>  | <p>Pill Bug</p>           |
| <p>Pinecone</p>               | <p>Eastern Cottontail Rabbit</p>  | <p>Mountain Beaver</p>    | <p>Barred Owl</p>     | <p>Earthworm</p>          |



# Animal Mask Activity

Materials needed:

- Printed animal mask
- Scissors
- Crayons
- Hole punch
- String

Color and cut out an animal mask. Assemble with the help of a family member. Then use the knowledge you learned during bingo to act out these animals!

