

Benthic Bingo

Premise: Learning about benthic invertebrates through instruction and demonstration in using ID sheet. Practicing ID skills in a game of bingo/matching.

Instruction:

- Show the benthic macroinvertebrates ID sheet and explain when the word benthic macroinvertebrates means. Benthic macroinvertebrates are any bugs that live in the water at the bottom (“benthic”), are big enough to see (“macro”) and have no spine, so they either have a hard shell, or they’re just squishy (“invertebrate”).
- You are welcome to speak about the life cycle and stages if time permits and attention is there.
- Explain the different parts of an insect using the printed model.
- Show ID chart, walk through, in discussion with the kids, the identification process.
- Give small groups of kids a bingo card and let them explore, marking off what they identify.
- Congratulate them and give them a sticker (if we have them)
- If very young kids: Show them the macros, tell them some names, explain the life cycle, then let them explore!

Materials:

- [Printed model showing insect body parts](#)
- [ID Sheets, helpful if laminated](#)
- [Bingo sheets](#) x 22
- [Bingo Cards](#) x 2
- Chips or rocks to mark off bingo boards