

Jetty Walk Bingo

Florida Sunshine State Standards:
SC.D.2.2; SC.E.2.2

Time: 40 - 60 minutes

Objectives: The students will be able to state at least one landmark observed in Biscayne National Park; name at least 2 plants and 2 animals that live in the habitats along the jetty; and state at least one impact people have on the environment.

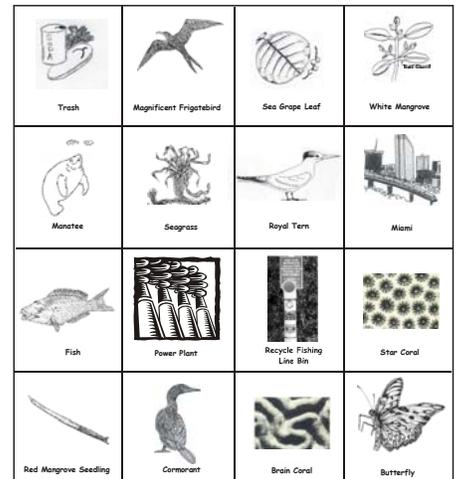
Materials:

Jetty bingo cards, dry-erase markers

Procedure:

1. Head towards the boardwalk (see map).
When you get to the manatee interpretive display handout the bingo cards and markers. (Hint-look, you can already have your first space filled in). For larger groups divide into pairs or small groups.
2. Try to get as many spaces filled in as possible. Do not be limited to just what is in front of you. Look to the horizon, look up at the sky, into the water, in the trees, on the wall, on the ground. Be observant.
3. Share what you find, the goal is not to win but to discover.

Jetty Walk Bingo



Did you know?

The boardwalk and jetty along the Bay's edge offers an exciting environment to explore. This activity can help you discover the wildlife, habitats, and landmarks as you walk the trail.



Information Sheet for Jetty Walk Bingo

The following items are in the order you will most likely encounter them starting at the manatee display and ending at the wayside exhibit at the end of the jetty.

Manatee: Though it is unlikely that you will see a manatee, the manatee display is where the game begins. They frequent this area most often in the cooler months seeking warmer water.

Sea Grape leaf: This tree's leaf shape makes it easy to identify. The sea grape has a high tolerance for salt and drought. Its fruit is eaten by several species of animals.

Brain coral: Look for this on the low wall at the beginning of the jetty walk. The wall is a coral limestone skeleton. Each type of coral is a colony of thousands of tiny, soft-bodied animals called polyps. Polyps make a protective skeleton made of limestone. Hundreds of these skeletons make a coral head. Many corals living together form a reef.

Star Coral: Again look for this on the low wall at the beginning of the jetty walk to find a fossil of this coral. Coral like this is found in the limestone rock of the keys, evidence that the keys truly are a land from the sea.

Miami: The city of Miami can be seen on a clear day. Biscayne National Park protects the most northern of the Florida Keys (islands) from development and preserves historical evidence of what the keys used to be like. There was once a plan to turn these islands into another Miami Beach but a small group of concerned citizens fought to protect this area and make it a National Monument.

White Mangrove: There are several white mangroves along the jetty boardwalk. Each leaf has a bump on both sides of the petiole (the area where the leaf is attached to the stem). These are salt secreting glands. Ask the students to locate the salt secreting gland.

Sea Grass: Sea grass is vital to the health of the underwater ecosystem. They help filter the water and provide shelter for organisms.



Fish: Fish abound in the habitats of Biscayne National Park. You will be able to find them in all shapes and colors. Look at the fish ID card to help you identify some of the species.

Red Mangrove Seedling: Red Mangrove trees can be seen where the boardwalk turns. See if the students can find a seedling (propagule) on a tree and another floating in the water. The red mangrove seedlings germinate while still attached to the tree so when they fall they are ready to take root. Some float long distances before finding a suitable spot to take root and grow.

Fishing line container: Monofilament fishing line lasts about 600 years in the marine environment. Animals often become entangled in it. The line in this bin is recycled into a material used in the manufacture of new plastic fishing-related products. Encourage the recycling of fishing line.

Trash: Unfortunately trash is easy to find. Discuss the negative impact trash has on the environment.

Power Plant: Turkey Point Power Plant is a nuclear power plant but also uses oil and gas to produce energy. If we conserve energy by turning the lights off when we leave a room we would need less power plants like this one.

Butterfly: The subtropical climate here provides excellent habitat for butterflies from the tropics.

Magnificent Frigate Bird: If this majestic bird can not be spotted soaring above you, it can be found on the display at the end of the jetty. Observe the bird's forked tail and 7.5 foot wingspan. This bird rests in trees or markers but never on water or sand. It is also called a pirate bird (clepto-parasite) because it steals its food in the air from other birds.

Royal Tern: This bird dives into the water to catch small fish.

Cormorant: This bird hunts underwater. Often you will see the cormorant perched with its wings outstretched to dry.

