

# Game Instructions



These games were developed for blitz events at Florida State University and as such reflect information specific to those events, e.g., Bingo terms based on information from southeastern US herbarium labels and Geo Locator maps of Florida. Please modify these resources to suit your needs.

In our experience, we have found that it's best to introduce the games after volunteers have had time to transcribe on their own and troubleshoot with blitz leaders for ~30 minutes. At that point, distribute copies of game cards and go over the rules. Plan on each game taking ~30 minutes, and allow for ~30 minutes of down time in between games where volunteers will transcribe without a game taking place.

We recommend providing small prizes to game winners (e.g., chocolate, institution or WeDigBio branded pens, key chains, or koozies) and possibly a larger prize (e.g, a potted native plant) for the raffle winner.

## Raffle

Throughout the event, volunteers keep track of the number of transcriptions they have accomplished. Depending on the online transcription center being used, this information may be available on the volunteers' 'dashboard'. If it is not available through the transcription center, or the volunteers are transcribing anonymously, they may keep track with a simple tick mark on scratch paper. For every five transcription a volunteer completes, they earn a raffle ticket. At the end of the event, a ticket is chosen at random.

## Habitat and Morphology Bingo

Players find each of the given words in the labels they are transcribing. The first player to complete a row, column, or diagonal wins and says "Bingo!" aloud. You may choose to keep the game going for Second, Third, etc. place winners. The center square is a freebee for everyone.

Variations:

- Instead of just a row or column, other shapes such as the outline of the board, the four corners, or the full board, can be designated as the goal.
- Players can be limited to only being allowed to check off one word per specimen. If a specimen label contains more than one word from the Bingo sheet, the player must choose only one.



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### **Timeline Tracker**

For a set amount of time (~30 minutes) players record the dates of the specimens they are transcribing by placing a tick along the timeline axis. At the end of the allotted time, prizes will be awarded for various categories such as oldest specimen, newest specimen, or specimen collected in the year closest to a labeled event such as “Biodiversity” first appears in a publication.

### **Geo Locator**

For a set amount of time (~30 minutes) players record the location of the specimens they are transcribing by placing a dot on the map. Specimens found outside of the mapped region may be listed in Other Locations. This game may be played at the state level where players only need to record the state in which a specimen was collected or at the county level where players record the county that a specimen was collected. The latter is likely best for collections focused on local taxa. At the end of the allotted time, prizes may be awarded for various categories such as specimen collected closest to the current location, specimen collected furthest from the current location, the person to transcribe specimens from the greatest number of states or counties, etc.

