

Mini-Lesson: Geography Bingo

Sharing geography connections via an interactive version of the classic card game

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Grade Level(s)	6-12
Duration in Minutes	30-45

Overview

Using customized geography Bingo cards, students share their place-based knowledge and geography connections in a collaborative icebreaker style game.

National Geography Standards

Element II. Places and Regions

Standard 4 The physical and human characteristics of places.

Standard 6 How culture and experience influence people's perceptions of places and regions.

Element IV. Human Systems

Standard 10 The characteristics, distribution, and complexity of Earth's cultural mosaics.

Materials

- Pencils
- Card: Arizona Geography Bingo
- Answer Key: Arizona Geography Bingo
- Card: Multicultural Geography Bingo
- Answer Key: Multicultural Geography Bingo

Procedures

1. Print copies of the Bingo Cards (either the Arizona or Multicultural version) and distribute one per student.
2. Students print their name at the top of the Bingo Card and inside the FREE box.
3. Ask students if they have ever played the game of Bingo. Explain that Geography Bingo is played in a similar manner as the traditional game version with a few exceptions.
4. The Rules for "how to" play Geography Bingo are:
 - With Geography Bingo, each grid box features either a geography-related question or a place-based geography experience.
 - Upon the teacher's signal to start, players walk around the room actively seeking out a classmate who can either answer one of the geography-related questions OR can share a personal story connected to one of the place-based experiences. If a classmate can satisfactorily attest to the grid box "task," have them write their first name inside the grid box. Players should briefly "interview" the classmate to ensure that they will be able to recall their specific answer or personal story as the ability to recount this information WILL be required later for a winning BINGO. (Hint: It is fine for a player to write brief reminder notes inside the grid box.)
 - Restriction A classmate is restricted to signing only one grid box on any player's Bingo card. This rule promotes more active engagement and interaction among students during the game.
 - Restriction To ensure students are basing their answers on prior knowledge and personal experience, do not allow access to the internet while playing the game.
 - When a player attains five signed grid boxes in a line (either vertically, horizontally, or diagonally), they shout "BINGO!" At that point, all players "freeze" and go back to their seats. The "potential" Bingo winner goes to the front of the room to determine if they can pass the final task to be declared a winner.
 - Final Task to Win The teacher directs the "potential" winner to share which Bingo line has been completed. To be officially declared a winner, the player must successfully read aloud the: 1) Grid box task, 2) Name of classmate who signed the grid box, 3) Recount the answer or personal story related to

the grid box task WITHOUT any assistance from the classmate. (The teacher checks with the classmate to verify if the player's retelling of the answers or personal stories are correct or adequate). If the player successfully recounts the answers for all five grid boxes, the player (and five classmates who signed the Bingo card) are declared winners for that round and are awarded prizes.

- **Bingo Variations:** There are several variations on what constitutes a Bingo to add variety to the game.
 1. Four Corners – Sign off the grid boxes in the four corners of the Bingo card.
 2. "X" Marks the Spot – Sign off the grid boxes on both diagonal lines of the Bingo card.
 3. Full House – Sign off ALL the grid boxes on the Bingo card.

Assessment

Ticket Out the Door Assessment

- For Arizona Geography Bingo - Direct students to write down the "Three Most Interesting Facts" they learned about Arizona's Geography from playing the Bingo game.
- For Multicultural Bingo - Direct students to write down the "Three New Facts" they learned about diverse cultures from playing the Bingo game.

Sources

Sources for Arizona Geography Bingo

The World Atlas, "Arizona Maps and Facts"

<https://www.worldatlas.com/maps/united-states/arizona>

Arizona Highways

<https://www.arizonahighways.com/>

Salt River Tubing

<https://www.saltrivertubing.com/>

Valley Metro, "About Valley Metro"

<https://www.valleymetro.org/about>

Navajo Nations Parks and Recreation, Four Corner Monument Navajo Tribal Park

<https://navajonationparks.org/navajo-tribal-parks/four-corners-monument/>

Office of the Arizona Governor

<https://azgovernor.gov/>

Arizona State Museum, "Federally Recognized Native Nations in Arizona"

<https://statemuseum.arizona.edu/native-nations-arizona>

Arizona State Parks, "Legend of the Lost Dutchman"

<https://azstateparks.com/lost-dutchman/explore/the-dutchman>

ARCGIS StoryMaps, "Copper Mining in Arizona"

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/1dc4bb3faf8f43e09fdb61ada22ad9da>

National Weather Service, "Dust Storms and Haboobs"

<https://www.weather.gov/safety/wind-dust-storm>

National Weather Service, "Flash Floods"

<https://www.weather.gov/fgz/FlashFlood>

Smithsonian Magazine, "Frybread"

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/arts-culture/frybread-79191/>

Food Network Kitchen, "What is Horchata?"

<https://www.foodnetwork.com/how-to/packages/food-network-essentials/what-is-horchata>

Fodor's Travel, "There are a Lot of Wild Legends About Mexico's Iconic Easter Dish. Here's the Truth"

<https://www.fodors.com/world/mexico-and-central-america/mexico/experiences/news/there-are-a-lot-of-wild-legends-about-mexicos-iconic-easter-dish-heres-the-truth>

Culinary Backstreets, "CB on the Road: The Story of Paletas La Michoacana,"

<https://culinarybackstreets.com/cities-category/mexico-city/2018/a-treat-from-tocumbo/>

Mesa Arts Center

<https://www.mesaartscenter.com/>

National Park Service, Grand Canyon

<https://www.nps.gov/grca/index.htm>

Arizona Geography Bingo

Born in Arizona	Eaten Indian Fry Bread	Has lived in THREE or more Arizona cities	Seen a REAL live roadrunner	Knows the location of the London Bridge
Tubed down the Salt River	Can name the Arizona State Flower	Knows the mystery backstory of the Superstition Mountains	Can name the current governor of Arizona	Had a prickly encounter with a cactus
Visited a copper mine	Knows when Cinco de Mayo is celebrated	FREE	Can describe the location of Four Corners	Been south of the US border
Can name at least TWO Arizona Indian reservations	Eaten a jalapeno without crying	Can name THREE Arizona counties	Been inside the Mesa Arts Center	Visited the Grand Canyon
Been caught in a flash flood	Has traveled on the Valley Metro light rail OR bus	Seen a <i>haboob</i>	Can name the university located in Tucson	Tasted capirozada, horchata, OR paletas

Answer Key
Arizona Geography Bingo

<p>Born in Arizona</p> <p><i>Name the AZ city of birth</i></p>	<p>Eaten Indian Fry Bread</p> <p><i>Describe the experience: where, what it tasted like, how it was served</i></p>	<p>Has lived in THREE or more Arizona cities</p> <p><i>Name the AZ cities lived in</i></p>	<p>Seen a REAL live roadrunner</p> <p><i>Describe the experience: where, when, what happened</i></p>	<p>Knows the location of the London Bridge</p> <p><i>Lake Havasu City</i></p>
<p>Tubed down the Salt River</p> <p><i>Describe the experience: when, what happened, who else was there</i></p>	<p>Can name the Arizona State Flower</p> <p><i>Blossom of the Saguaro Cactus</i></p>	<p>Knows the mystery backstory of the Superstition Mountains</p> <p><i>Describe the legends of hidden gold mines in the mountains</i></p>	<p>Can name the current governor of Arizona</p> <p><i>2023-2027 Katie Hobbs</i></p>	<p>Had a prickly encounter with a cactus</p> <p><i>Describe the experience: where, when, what happened</i></p>
<p>Visited a copper mine</p> <p><i>Describe the experience: where – which mine, when, what happened</i></p>	<p>Knows when Cinco de Mayo is celebrated</p> <p><i>Every May 5th</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FREE</p>	<p>Can describe the location of Four Corners</p> <p><i>Located at the point where the states of AZ, NM, CO, UT meet</i></p>	<p>Been south of the US border</p> <p><i>Possible Ex: Mexico, Costa Rica, Belize, Dominican Rep, Bahamas, Peru, Jamaica, Brazil</i></p>
<p>Can name at least TWO Arizona Indian reservations</p> <p><i>Possible Ex: Hopi, Navajo, Apache, Yaqui, Gila River, Salt River Pima, Tohono O’odham</i></p>	<p>Eaten a jalapeno without crying</p> <p><i>Describe the experience: where, when, what happened</i></p>	<p>Can name THREE Arizona counties</p> <p><i>Possible Ex: Pinal, Maricopa, Pima, Yavapai, Coconino, Yuma, Cochise, Santa Cruz, Greenlee</i></p>	<p>Been inside the Mesa Arts Center</p> <p><i>Describe the experience: when, who performed, performance critique</i></p>	<p>Visited the Grand Canyon</p> <p><i>Describe the experience: when, what happened, who else was there</i></p>
<p>Been caught in a flash flood</p> <p><i>Describe the experience: where, when, what happened, who else was there</i></p>	<p>Has traveled on the Valley Metro light rail OR bus</p> <p><i>Describe the experience: when, where was your destination, what happened</i></p>	<p>Seen a haboob</p> <p><i>Describe the experience: where, when, what happened, who else was there</i></p>	<p>Can name the university located in Tucson</p> <p><i>University of Arizona</i></p>	<p>Tasted capirotada, horchata, OR paletas</p> <p><i>Describe the food: what it is, what it tasted like, how it was served, what was the occasion</i></p>

Multicultural Geography Bingo

Can say “hello” in FIVE languages.	Has eaten lumpia, pancit, or adobo	Can name THREE religions that consider Jerusalem a holy city	Seen a REAL live ostrich, sloth, or Komodo dragon.	Knows the location of the Pyramid of Giza
Visited a country outside of the USA	Can name FOUR of the 12 animal signs of the Chinese Zodiac	Knows where Legos were first invented	Can name the current leader of Russia	Had a close encounter with an earthquake, tornado, or hurricane
Can name ONE of the US Territories	Knows when <i>Día de los Muertos</i> is celebrated	FREE	Can name the US state known for Cajun cuisine and zydeco music	Can explain what tablas, taiko, and congas have in common.
Can name the main ingredient found in hummus	Can name the cultural origin of reggae music	Can describe the difference between manga and anime	Can explain what Bollywood, Nollywood, and Hollywood have in common	Eaten in a restaurant that serves curry dishes
Can explain why FOUR (4) is an unlucky number in China, Japan, and Korea	Has traveled by light rail, train, or a subway system	Knows the winner of the most recent FIFA World Cup	Can name the national dance of Argentina	Been on an Indian reservation

Answer Key

Multicultural Geography Bingo

<p>Can say “hello” in FIVE languages <i>Hola (Spanish)</i> <i>Bonjour (French)</i> <i>Guten Tag (German)</i> <i>Nǐ hǎo (Chinese)</i> <i>Marhaba (Arabic)</i> <i>Jambo (Swahili)</i> <i>Konnichi-wa (Japanese)</i></p>	<p>Has eaten lumpia, pancit, or adobo</p> <p><i>Describe the food: what it is, what it tasted like, how it was served, what was the occasion (Filipino cuisine)</i></p>	<p>Can name THREE religions that consider Jerusalem a holy city</p> <p><i>Christianity</i> <i>Judaism</i> <i>Islam</i></p>	<p>Seen a REAL live ostrich, sloth, or Komodo dragon.</p> <p><i>Describe the experience: where, when, what happened, who else was there</i></p>	<p>Knows the location of the Pyramid of Giza</p> <p><i>In Egypt, along the banks of the Nile River</i></p>
<p>Visited a country outside of the USA</p> <p><i>Answers will vary</i></p>	<p>Can name FOUR of the 12 animal signs of the Chinese Zodiac</p> <p><i>Rat, Ox, Tiger Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Goat, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, Pig</i></p>	<p>Knows where Legos were first invented</p> <p><i>Denmark</i></p>	<p>Can name the current leader of Russia</p> <p><i>Vladimir Putin (2024-2030)</i></p>	<p>Had a close encounter with an earthquake, tornado, or hurricane</p> <p><i>Describe the experience: where, when, what happened, who else was there</i></p>
<p>Can name ONE of the US Territories</p> <p><i>Puerto Rico</i> <i>US Virgin Islands</i> <i>Guam</i> <i>American Samoa</i> <i>Northern Mariana Islands</i></p>	<p>Knows when <i>Día de los Muertos</i> is celebrated</p> <p><i>Nov 1 – Nov 2</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FREE</p>	<p>Can name the US state known for Cajun cuisine and zydeco music</p> <p><i>Louisiana</i></p>	<p>Can explain what tablas, taiko, and congas have in common.</p> <p><i>Types of drums</i> <i>Tablas (India)</i> <i>Taiko (Japan)</i> <i>Congas (Cuba)</i></p>
<p>Can name the main ingredient found in hummus</p> <p><i>Chickpeas (sometimes called garbanzo beans)</i></p>	<p>Can name the cultural origin of reggae music</p> <p><i>Originated in Jamaica in the 1960’s</i></p>	<p>Can describe the difference between manga and anime</p> <p><i>Both are Japanese: Manga = Graphic novels, comic books intended for adults</i> <i>Anime = Animated films often based upon manga</i></p>	<p>Can explain what Bollywood, Nollywood, and Hollywood have in common</p> <p><i>Film industry hubs</i> <i>Bollywood (India)</i> <i>Nollywood (Nigeria)</i> <i>Hollywood (USA)</i></p>	<p>Eaten in a restaurant that serves curry dishes</p> <p><i>Describe the food: type of curry eaten, what it tasted like, how it was served, name of the restaurant</i></p>
<p>Can explain why FOUR (4) is an unlucky number in China, Japan, and Korea</p> <p><i>“4” sounds like the word for death in Chinese, Japanese, & Korean.</i></p>	<p>Has traveled by light rail, train, or a subway system</p> <p><i>Describe the experience: when, where was your destination, what happened</i></p>	<p>Knows the winner of the most recent FIFA World Cup</p> <p><i>Women’s 2023 Spain</i> <i>Men’s 2022 Argentina</i></p>	<p>Can name the national dance of Argentina</p> <p><i>Tango</i></p>	<p>Been on an Indian reservation</p> <p><i>Describe the experience: when, which reservation, what happened</i></p>