



WINGRA ABCs

BINGO INSTRUCTIONS

Difficulty: Three levels of difficulty. These levels account for readers and non-readers.

Object: Get a bingo. It can be traditional bingo, four corners, diagonal only, etc. Play multiple times.

Tip: Help the kids prepare for the bingo game. Read the Wingra ABCs ahead of time (even multiple times!) so they are familiar with the pictures, descriptions, and associated word for each letter. If you have access to a printer, print off the call list, cut the squares out, fold them in half, put them in a bowl to randomly choose from, and use your best Bingo emcee voice. If not, just randomly pick from the sheet, definitely still make sure to use your best emcee voice.

Levels:

- **Name only:** Only read the name of the object associated with each letter.
 - Note for non-readers
 - See if they can associate the picture with the name, especially if you've read the book enough times (young children love reading the same book over and over!)
 - If your child is learning to read, try sounding out the words
- **Name and description:** Read the name and description.
 - Note for non-readers
 - See if they can associate the picture and description with the name, especially if you've read the book enough times (young children love reading the same book over and over!). Use the visual clues in the description to help identify.
 - If your child is learning to read, try sounding out the words, use the visual clues in the description to help
- **Description only:** Only read the description. Do not read the identifying name. The description has enough clues that the player should be able to identify the appropriate object, especially if they've studied the ABCs. This is especially true for the younger children version.

Note for Young Kids Bingo Version (the 3x3 bingo sheet):

- Only 9 of the 26 letters are included in these bingo cards. We chose these nine letters because they have distinct traits that nonreaders should be able to pick out when read the description. Remember to modify your call list to those nine letters only (these are distinguished by the blue font).

<p>AMERICAN TOAD This amphibian makes calls that sound like a long trill. It can live farther distances from water than most amphibians due to its thick, dry, and rough skin.</p>	<p>BULLFROG This amphibian is named after its call which sounds like a cow mooing. Its coloring can range from brown to olive green. It has large external eardrums behind the eyes.</p>	<p>COONTAIL When the county surveyed Lake Wingra in 2017, this native plant was the most frequently encountered aquatic plant. Its shape resembles a raccoon tail.</p>
<p>DUCK POND SPRINGS This area is a popular spot for ducks. It has groundwater emerging to the surface by the stone wall along Nakoma Drive.</p>	<p>EURASIAN WATER MILFOIL An invasive aquatic plant that is especially predominant 6-10 feet from Wingra shoreline. It has a feathery appearance and can grow in thick clumps.</p>	<p>FEN A rare wetland type fed by groundwater and characterized by alkaline soils. Although the South Shore Fen and Wingra Fen are now invaded and overgrown with shrubs since the time of Euro-American settlement, a healthy one looks like a grassy marsh.</p>
<p>GREEN FROG An easy characteristic to distinguish this amphibian is the noticeable ridge that protrudes from behind their eye down the length of their back. It sounds like a low gung-gung-gung, similar to a loose banjo string.</p>	<p>HERON, GREAT BLUE These slate-grey colored birds nest communally in "rookeries" high up in the trees or silently stalk small fish in the shallow waters of the lake!</p>	<p>INFILTRATION The process when water that falls on the ground enters the soil. Rain gardens help to increase it! Pavement and nonporous ground does not.</p>
<p>JUMPING WORMS An invasive earthworm that doesn't actually jump but has a vigorous, acrobatic writhing motion when disturbed.</p>	<p>KAYAK An activity enjoyed by many on Lake Wingra. Lake Wingra is a slow no-wake lake which makes it a friendly lake for paddlers to enjoy nature and relax in a tranquil setting.</p>	<p>LOON These iconic northwoods diving birds have a distinctive black and white pattern on their back. Migrating from their overwintering grounds on the Gulf of Mexico, they use Lake Wingra in spring as a pit stop. Their final destination is their breeding grounds in the northern U.S. and Canada.</p>
<p>MUSKRAT Mostly active at night, this semiaquatic rodent looks like a beaver except they don't have a flat tail. Their tail looks more like a rat's! Their homes look like dome-shaped mounds made of vegetation. Not wandering far from home, they can swim underwater for up to 15 minutes and eat plants along the shore.</p>	<p>NORTHERN LEOPARD FROG This amphibian has dark circular spot. Each spot has a white or yellowish border. Heard briefly in June and July at Vilas Lagoon in 2018, scientist now notice these frogs in general don't live as long and lay fewer eggs.</p>	<p>OSPREY Pesticide bans and artificial nesting platforms have allowed this once threatened bird to rebound. If you're lucky you might see one spend its summer noisily eating fish at Lake Wingra.</p>

<p>PHOSPHORUS Leaves in the street let out this nutrient when rain water passes through them. It causes algae blooms when too much is present in lakes. That's why it is important to rake leaves out of the street before it rains. Then they don't get washed into the storm water drains and flushed into the lakes.</p>	<p>Q (VARIABLE FOR FLOW RATE) For scientists and engineers this letter is an assigned variable for flow rate. Flow rate units are volume per time (example: cubic feet per second). Wingra Dam controls the flow rate into Wingra Creek. A sensor at the dam monitors the flow. You can see musky trying to jump it in the spring!</p>	<p>RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD These territorial marsh-dwelling birds congregate along the Lake Wingra wetlands in early spring when the males begin making their distinctive calls to attract females and defend their nesting territory. Males have a red shoulder with a yellow bar underneath.</p>
<p>SPRINGS A place where groundwater becomes surface water. More than 30 of these once surrounded Lake Wingra and now only a few remain due to loss of infiltration.</p>	<p>TURBIDITY A measurement of how cloudy the water is. It relates to how many particles are in the water. Carp can stir up sediment at the bottom of the lake making it cloudy. When over 6,000 carp were removed in 2008 water clarity drastically increased.</p>	<p>UTRICULARIA MACROHIZA U VULGARIS Also called common bladderwort, this carnivorous free floating plant has a yellow flower and system of underwater sacs that trap aquatic organisms. Lake Wingra is the only Madison lake noted to have it in 2017.</p>
<p>VILAS BEACH A free public beach along the shores of Lake Wingra. Families can laugh and swim and the shallow waters make it warm and inviting. Remember not to feed the geese so we can reduce <i>e-coli</i> related beach closures!</p>	<p>WILD CELERY This submersed aquatic plant is an important food for waterfowl. This means when you see ducks diving down, they might be having a quick bite of it. Other animals like deer and muskrat can also feed on it.</p>	<p>X-YEAR FLOOD Using historical flood records, scientist and engineers determine the likelihood that a certain flood magnitude will occur in any given year. A 100-year flood, for example, means there is a 1 in 100 chance it will happen any given year.</p>
<p>YELLOW PERCH These native fish, related to walleyes, provide endless fishing enjoyment throughout the year. They also provide an important food source for larger fish such as bass, pike, and muskies, and for birds like herons, osprey, and king fishers.</p>	<p>ZOOPLANKTON These tiny organisms drift and swim about in the lake, feeding on microscopic algae and providing food to other organisms such as small fish. Daphnia are an abundant type of this that graze on phytoplankton in Lake Wingra.</p>	