

## *Playing Lotería – El juego de la Lotería*



Colato Laínez, René. (2005). *Playing Lotería/El juego de la Lotería*. Illustrated by Jill Arena. Luna Rising. ISBN 978-0-87358-881-2 and 0-87358-881-9. Grades 1-3. (Bilingual, English/Spanish)



A boy reluctantly spends the summer with his grandmother in Mexico. They have fun learning each other's language using the game Lotería, or Mexican bingo.

After reading the book, students can complete the following activity.

**INTRODUCTION:** *Loteria*, also called *Mexican Bingo*, is a game played in Mexico, Latin America and the Southwestern United States. This is how the game is played:

- The game contains game boards and 54 cards with pictures of familiar items.
- Each player gets a game board that has 16 pictures of the items in four rows across and four rows down. Players may play more than one card at a time.
- The caller calls one card at a time by calling out the name of the item in the picture, along with a phrase that describes the picture.
- The players use coins, beans or other small items to cover the pictures that are called.
- The first player to fill a horizontal, vertical or diagonal row wins, and hollers “Lotería” or “Bingo.”

In groups, students will complete the following **SCIENCE** activity: **ECOSYSTEM LOTERÍA**

**TEKS:** Science concepts. The student knows that systems have parts and are composed of organisms and objects. The student is expected to:

- (A) Sort organisms and objects according to their parts and characteristics;
- (B) Observe and describe the parts of plants and animals.

Students will do research using online databases or reference books on how plants and animals interact and depend on each other for survival. Students will create their own Lotería game by doing research on the role of specific plants and animals in the local ecosystem.

## INSTRUCTIONS:

### 1. PRIMARY ACTIVITY:

- a. Each student creates one game card for the game by drawing a picture of the assigned plant or animal on the front of the card and writing a phrase that describes the animal or plant on the back of the card.
- b. The students will place the game cards on a large piece of butcher paper, poster board or bulletin board to illustrate the plant's or animal's role in the ecosystem and/or food

### 2. EXTENSION: After all the cards are completed, the students will construct game boards with the pictures of the plants and animals on the game cards. Game boards can be modified to have nine pictures or sixteen pictures depending on the total number of cards made by the students. Pictures can be drawn, copied on a copier, or students could cut pictures from magazines or use pictures from clip art. Have sufficient copies of each picture to make one game board for each student. Scramble the pictures on the game board so that no two boards are the same.

### 3. CARD TEMPLATES:

