

# ZWIBBLE BINGO

<p>Create a poster for one of the animals on the Santa Fe National Forest's "Sensitive Species" list to teach other students about an animal that's threatened with local extinction</p>	<p>Interview a farmer. Visit the farmer's market, or even visit a farm. Take notes (and pictures if you're able) and share what you learned about farming with your class</p>	<p>Visit a local wildlife center</p>	<p>Put up a clothes line outdoors so that you can use "solar power" to dry your clothes</p>
<p>Be on "light patrol" for a week – turning off all unused lights in your home</p>	<p>Spend car-free weekend with your family: use only bicycles, public transport and, of course, your feet</p>	<p>Plant a seed and grow a vegetable that your family can eat</p>	<p>Make two signs for your home that remind family members to conserve water, like "Please turn off the water while you brush!"</p>
<p>Go to the farmer's market to buy locally produced ingredients for a meal, which you help prepare</p>	<p>Recycle the spent rechargeable batteries that have been accumulating in your home</p>	<p>Take responsibility for your family's recycling for a week – arrange to get recycling bins if your family doesn't yet have them</p>	<p>Put reusable grocery bags in your family's car and help your family use them (instead of accumulating more disposable grocery bags) for a whole month</p>
<p>Make a kitchen compost bucket or an outdoor compost bin - turn your food scraps into soil for gardening</p>	<p>Plant a flower or a bush that will provide nectar for hummingbirds or butterflies</p>	<p>Donate toys and/or blankets to a local animal shelter</p>	<p>Participate in a service project that benefits the environment</p>

Complete four challenge activities in a row to earn a ZWIBBLE from Earth's Birthday Project. The four activities may be across, down, or diagonal. Students must document experiences and share them with their classes. Parents must verify completion by signing The Parent Verification Form on the reverse side of this game card.

\*\*\*\*\* Alternative way to earn a Zwibble: 1001 ACTS OF CARING AND KINDNESS = raise money to save 500 gallons of Santa Fe River water + 500 square yards of rainforest + complete 1 ZWIBBLE BINGO activity = 1 ZWIBBLE \*\*\*\*\*

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## Parent Verification Form

Dear Parents,

Please complete this form to verify that your child has completed at least four challenges in a row on the Earth Day Bingo Challenge board. This form must be completed for your child to be eligible to win one of the prizes.

Student Name:

School:

Teacher:

My child has completed four challenges in a row

Please list the challenges that your child has completed:

Please include any comments or observations:

I verify that my child has completed the challenges listed above and is eligible to receive a prize.

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Parent Signature

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Date

\*Remember, students must also provide photographs or other evidence of completing each challenge\*

# ZWIBBLE BINGO

The students in our class are participating in a district-wide program in celebration of Earth Day called the ZWIBBLE BINGO. Students who complete four challenges in a row on their Bingo Cards will earn a prize, a Zwibble, donated by Earth's Birthday Project. Just imagine the positive environmental impact that can be made if the thousands of students in our city rise up to these challenges.

Please find additional resources below. They will help students understand and complete the challenge activities. In order for students to get credit for each activity, they must bring in a photograph or other evidence of having completed the challenge. These photos will make a great bulletin board or poster for our class. Parents must complete the Parent Verification Form in order for students to be eligible for the prizes.

**Santa Fe National Forest's "Sensitive Species" List:** Students can go online (<http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/sfe/wildlife/index.html>) to view a list of animal species that are threatened locally. The list includes threats/limiting factors and a justification for including the species on the list. Species specific to Santa Fe National Forest are highlighted in red. Students can create an illustrated poster that describes the animal and explains how it is threatened. Posters will be displayed in the classroom or around the school.

## **Farmer's Market Experiences: Interviewing Farmers, Buying Local Produce, Buying Seeds**

Santa Fe Farmer's Market - Northern New Mexico food producers gather at the Railyard in Santa Fe to sell their produce (year-round). Every Saturday from 8 AM – 1PM.

Espanola Farmer's Market – The Espanola Farmers' Market is seasonal, starting in mid-June. Every Monday from 10 AM – 5 PM. 1005 N. Railroad Ave.

Vendors at the Santa Fe Farmers' Market seek volunteers to help in the fields and in the booths. More information can be found at <http://www.santafefarmersmarket.com/volunteer/>.

## **Visiting your Local Wilderness Center:**

**The Randall Davey Audubon Center:** 130 acres of protected habitat located at 1800 Upper Canyon Road. The guided bird walk meets every Saturday morning at 8:30 AM. Bring your own binoculars if you have them, or borrow theirs. No reservations required. (505) 983-4609.

**Espanola Wildlife Center:** An organization dedicated to education and wildlife rescue and rehabilitation. Self guided tours Monday – Friday 10 AM – 3 PM. They also provide opportunities for school fieldtrips. <http://www.thewildlifecenter.org>

**Turn Out the Lights!** Lighting our homes accounts for 5-10% of a family's total energy use. Students on "Light Patrol" can turn off incandescent lights (traditional light bulbs with a filament) whenever they're not in use, and turn off florescent lights (including compact fluorescent) if they will not be used for at least 10 minutes.

**A Car-Free Weekend:** Driving automobiles accounts for 47.4% of the energy use for a family of four! That's almost as much as all other forms of energy consumption combined! Driving less is one of the best things your family can do for the environment. Plan ahead – buy the groceries in advance, tune up your bikes, get a copy of the bus schedule and enjoy a weekend without the car.

**Clothes Line:** After the washing machine and the refrigerator, the clothes dryer is the 3<sup>rd</sup> most energy sapping appliance. Using a clothes line can add up to serious energy savings. Here's an idea as an alternative to the standard outdoor clothes line – hang a clothes line or drying rack inside the house during the winter to humidify your home and in the summer to cool the house through evaporative cooling.

**Planting a seed:** Start a seed indoors in a cup. Place it in a window and keep the soil moist. Watch it sprout and grow. Transplant it outside into a large pot or garden bed in mid-May, when it is warm enough. Ideas for vegetables to start inside: herbs, tomatoes, peppers, chiles, eggplant, cauliflower, broccoli, and cabbage.

**Conserve Water:** Students create signs to remind family members to conserve water. Here are some ideas: don't run the dishwasher and washing machine until you have a full load, take shorter showers, rinse fruit and vegetables in a bowl and use that water to water house plants, turn off faucet while brushing teeth, drop tissues in the trash and not the toilet, turn off water while shampooing your hair (this alone can save 150 gallons per month), re-use towels, keep a bucket in the shower to catch water as it warms up – use captured water to water plants.

**Recycling Batteries:** Single-use alkaline batteries cannot be recycled in Santa Fe, but they no longer carry the mercury that made them so dangerous to throw away in years past. Rechargeable batteries can and should be recycled when they have lost their ability to hold a charge. They contain heavy metals that can be re-used and are hazardous to the environment if thrown away. Cell phone batteries, NiCad batteries, NiMH batteries, power tool batteries, and automotive batteries can all be recycled locally.

**Curbside Recycling:** As consumers, we are responsible for the creation of enormous amounts of packaging. Be responsible. Throwing away this plastic, glass, paper, and aluminum fills our landfills and wastes energy and natural resources. However, recycling these materials saves natural resources and saves energy - and it can happen in every home. The city of Santa Fe provides curbside recycling. Bins can be picked up at 1142 Siler Rd. (505-955-2200). See the website <http://www.santafenm.gov/index.aspx?nid=523> for recycling guidelines.

**Reusable Grocery Bags:** Manufacturing and transporting new paper and plastic bags creates pollution, depletes natural resources, and wastes a tremendous amount of water. Recycling bags keeps paper and plastic out of the landfills. But recycling bags still takes energy, so reusing them is even more energy efficient. Try it for a month. Collect enough bags for a large shopping trip and put them in the car so they're there when you next need them. Remind the shoppers in your family to use them. Many grocery stores reward shoppers who bring their own bags.

**Composting:** Good for the environment because it keeps our food scraps out of the landfills and provides natural fertilizer for lawns and gardens. It's easier than you might think. Check out the following link for simple, kid-friendly instructions: <http://meetthegreens.pbskids.org/episode4/kitchen-composting.html> .

**Planting for Butterflies and Hummingbirds:** The area that our homes occupy reduces the habitat of native plants and animals. By planting flowering vegetation in our yards we can restore habitat for butterflies and hummingbirds, keeping their populations healthy. Visit a local nursery for advice on what to plant.

**Donate Items to a Local Animal Shelter:** Donate much needed items to your local animal shelter. Consider making cat toys at home instead of purchasing expensive toys at the store. Catnip beanbags made from old socks are a big hit with the felines. There are many online resources that can provide inspiration, such as [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SoofTclvRoA&feature=list\\_related&playnext=1&list=SP6315FA4FD3A15276](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SoofTclvRoA&feature=list_related&playnext=1&list=SP6315FA4FD3A15276) .

Santa Fe Humane Society: **100 Caja Del Rio Road, Santa Fe, NM 87507 (505) 983-4309** Their wish list can be viewed online: <http://www.sfhumanesociety.org/DonationsMembership.cfm>

Espanola Valley Humane Society: 108 Hamm Parkway, Espanola, NM 87532 (505) 753-8662 Their wish list can be viewed online: <http://www.evalleyshelter.org/donate/wishlist/>

**Service Projects:** Students may participate in an activity organized by a non-profit or community group doing a work project benefiting the environment. Or they can organize their own. Ideas include cleaning neglected public spaces, planting to prevent erosion or increase animal habitat, and building bird feeders or other shelters for animals. Be creative! Involve your friends to make it a work party.