

**Aims:**

A fun way to learn and share more facts about the most problematic and common alien species in Scotland and consolidate and check learning.

**You will need:**

- Printed set of 16 bingo cards (Bingo cards)
- Pen / crayon
- Calling sheet (below)

**Instructions:**

1. Hand out the bingo sheets one between two, or individually, depending on class or group size.
2. Shout out one of the facts from the calling sheet (either pick randomly or ask the pupils to pick a number between 1 and 24).
3. If the pupils have that matching fact, they can cross it off.
4. The aim is to get a line of facts crossed off, when this happens the team should shout "Bingo".
5. Keep playing and see who can be the first to get a horizontal line, a vertical line and a diagonal line.
6. You can carry on until there is a "Full House" called.

**Handy notes:**

Hint – you could laminate your bingo cards to make them reusable with wipe off pens or with cover over pieces to mark "called" facts.

Bingo games could involve small prizes or rewards to maintain class or group interest!

**Do more:**

We have provided some interesting facts about some invasive species for our bingo cards. You could generate your own facts for these or other species to make your own class or group specific bingo game.

Here are the facts to call out, remember to jumble up the order and shout randomly or ask the pupils to choose a fact number:

1. Since the release of **American Mink** the UK Water Vole population has decreased by more than 94%
2. **American Mink** are mustelids and related to Stoats, Weasels, Otters, Polecat, Pine marten and Badgers
3. **American Skunk Cabbage** gets its name due to the fact it smells a little like a Skunk
4. **Himalayan Balsam** seeds 'jump' up to 7m from their pods when disturbed
5. **Japanese Knotweed** roots can travel 7m away from the plant
6. **American Signal Crayfish** can live up to 20 years
7. An **Invasive Species** is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health
8. An **Alien or Non-Native Species** is a species introduced by humans outside its normal distribution
9. **Japanese Knotweed** plants grow from an interconnected, underground root system called a rhizome
10. **White Butterbur** flowers are one of the first to appear in the early spring along with snowdrops
11. **Grey Squirrels** carry a virus that is deadly to native red squirrels but doesn't affect them.
12. Many of the UK's invasive plants were introduced by **Victorian Plant Hunters** in the 19<sup>th</sup> century
13. **American Signal Crayfish** carry crayfish plague which is lethal to native crayfish
14. **Japanese Knotweed** does not set seed in the UK, it spreads by stem and root fragments
15. **White Butterbur** leaves shade out native plants and completely overtake riparian deciduous woodlands
16. **Japanese Knotweed** can grow up to 10cm a day during the summer months
17. **Himalayan Balsam** have up to 800 seeds per plant
18. **Biosecurity** refers to the actions we can take to stop spreading alien species
19. **Giant Hogweed** has photo-toxic sap that causes severe, recurring burns, to the skin when exposed to UV light
20. **Giant Hogweed** plants usually produce between 30,000 and 50,000 seeds. Sometimes even more!!
21. **Giant Hogweed** can grow to over 5m in height although usually between 3-4m
22. **Giant Hogweed** is native to the Caucasus region (Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia)
23. **American Signal Crayfish** burrow into riverbanks and destabilise the bank leading to collapse
24. Cleaning shoes, bike tyres and dog paws and washing canoes, nets and fishing gear are examples of **Biosecurity**