



# COLUMBUS BOTANICAL GARDEN

## *Trail Adventures – Scavenger Hunt Bingo*

**Overview:** Get outdoors on the Joann Holt Walking Trail! Your students will enjoy a little competition as they walk along the trail discovering all that nature has to offer from plants to insects to birds to rocks and everything in between with a “Scavenger Hunt Bingo.” This program challenges students to closely observe their surroundings. Plus, it’s a great opportunity for your students to experience a fun, educational outdoor adventure!!

**Grade level:** K-5

**Time:** 15-20 minutes

**Materials:** Scavenger Hunt Bingo sheets (can be downloaded from CBG web site); pencils; notebooks or clipboards for children to mark against

### **Directions:**

- Divide your children into small groups – 4-5 kids per adult. Smaller group sizes allows for more discussion.
- Make sure that the kids have different sheets. Plus, a clipboard would make it easier for kids to mark their findings!
- Each group should start their search at different points along the trail (one group might start at the trail entrance at the end of the parking lot; a second group might start in the camellia garden; while another group might start at the trail entrance beside the gin house).
- As you walk down the trail, encourage your students to listen and observe what’s happening in the woodland community. As you find trees, encourage students to feel the bark of a sweetgum versus the bark of a southern magnolia. Discuss how plants have different vegetative characteristics from leaves to bark to flowers, form and size so that they can better adapt to their habitat plus it makes them easier for botanists to identify! Older students can be challenged to write down the color or species of the bird that they observe. Ask students to name the state bird of Georgia. Answer: brown thrasher! You can even ask them about the type of cloud (if any) that they have seen. As you continue on your search encourage your students to discuss their findings and observations!