

Bingo

Introduction

Bingo certainly has a place in an activity programme, and is something that can be turned into a really fun and interactive session. It can also be run as a fundraiser for the home.



You Will Need

- **Laminated bingo cards** – These are available for free to print off the internet. Use large print, and laminate your bingo cards so they can be re-used.
- **Counters to cover the numbers** – You could use the green or blue lids from milk cartons. The kitchen will keep them for you.
- **Bingo caller** – There are free Bingo Caller Apps, or you may want to invest in a more traditional cage and numbered balls. See what suits your home best.
- **Prizes** – Small gifts such as packets of tissues, bars of soap, fun-sized chocolate bars etc. You might have the budget for bigger things too.

Instructions

Keep it simple!

If you have a resident who would like to be the caller, let them!

To make it fun, google 'traditional bingo calls', and print off the bingo lingo! 'Two little ducks' sounds much more fun than just 'Number 22'.



Make sure your residents each have a card, and it's on a flat surface, such as a table or a tray. Make sure they also have a bowl full of counters.

As the numbers are called, make sure everyone has heard and checked their cards. It will be a lot easier for you if you have some volunteers or other staff members to help.

Make it clear and simple what you are trying to achieve. Start off by going for just a line (a complete horizontal line of numbers). When someone has got one, encourage them to put their hand up or shout out 'Bingo!'. The person then can select a prize.

You can keep going and award prizes as others complete a line, or just keep going until someone gets a 'full house', with all their numbers covered.

Variations

Picture Bingo games are available online to print off, or, if you are feeling inventive for a special occasion, why not design your own? Christmas words, breeds of dogs, the Royal family, or even a sweet and chocolate theme could be achieved with a little imagination. If you have some volunteers, they could work on it for you, or it could be a project for your local school. If you are making a set yourself, laminate the words and then pull them out of a bowl.