



# Bolsa Chica 'I Spy' Game

## Spring edition

What do you spy on the trails at Bolsa Chica?

### How to play:

1. Check off items as you find them.
2. Take a photo of the item if possible.
3. Stay on Trail!

### **Can you find:** (Note: Clues on the back!)

- Insect  
(Saltmarsh Caterpillar-moth)



- Lizard  
(Western Fence Lizard)



- Great Egret



- CA Ground Squirrel



- Aquatic animal (CA Sea Hare)



- Red-tailed Hawk



- Allen's Hummingbird



- Coastal Bush Sunflower



- CA Poppy



- White Sage



Once you have found all the items, send us your favorite photo to [Erin@BCLandTrust.org](mailto:Erin@BCLandTrust.org) and we will share it on our social media! You can also download our free Bolsa Chica Coloring book for more educational fun from our website [www.BCLandTrust.org/Explore](http://www.BCLandTrust.org/Explore).

Optional: Send us a photo of your completed list with your name and address and we will send you a surprise!



Clues and more info on each item:

<p><b>Insect (Saltmarsh Caterpillar -moth)</b></p>	<p>The Saltmarsh caterpillar is the larva of the <i>Estigmene acrea</i>. Saltmarsh caterpillars are densely hairy and can be a variety of colors. When young, these caterpillars appear more yellowish. As the caterpillar ages they darken and can be anywhere from orange in color to black. You may see them feeding on the plants along the trail. They do not bite and are not poisonous.</p>	<p><b>Red-tailed Hawk</b></p>	<p>The Red-tailed Hawk is the most common and one of the largest birds you'll see in North America. Bulky and broad-winged, designed for effortless soaring. Adults can be recognized by the trademark reddish-brown tail, the rest of their plumage can be variable. You may see them perched in trees overlooking the mesa, searching for small rodents to eat.</p>
<p><b>Lizard (Western Fence Lizard)</b></p>	<p>Western fence lizards are medium-sized. Their back and limbs are covered in spiny gray, tan, or brown scales with darker waves or blotches. The adult males have large bright blue patches on their belly. To escape from a predator, their tail will detach, but grows back in 3-5 weeks. Look for them on the trails and rocks.</p>	<p><b>Allen's Humming- bird</b></p>	<p>In early spring the Bolsa Chica Wetlands starts buzzing with the sights and sounds of the coppery and green Allen's Hummingbird. Males flash their brilliant reddish orange throat and put on an elaborate show for the females, flying in circles like an acrobat, before climbing high into the sky and diving back down with a sharp squeal made by their tails.</p>
<p><b>Great Egret</b></p>	<p>Great Egrets are tall, white, long-legged wading birds with long, S-curved necks and long, dagger-like bills. Their bills are yellowish-orange and their legs black. Look for them wading in shallow water to hunt fish, frogs, and other small aquatic animals. They stand still watching for unsuspecting prey to pass by. Then, with startling speed, strike with a jab of their long neck and bill.</p>	<p><b>Coastal Bush Sunflower</b></p>	<p>The common name is California Brittlebush, it is a species of a flowering plant in the daisy family. It usually grows to about 3 feet tall, with cheerful, dark-eyed yellow daisies from spring into summer. These brighten the landscape in the Wetlands, attracting butterflies and bees.</p>
<p><b>CA Ground Squirrel</b></p>	<p>The California ground squirrel has brownish-gray fur with cream spots and flecks on its back. It has a darker gray color that runs from its head down to the middle of its back. It has a long bushy tail and big eyes. They eat plants and you may see them scurrying into their burrows in the Wetlands.</p>	<p><b>CA Poppy</b></p>	<p>Also called California Sunlight, these are native to California and Mexico. It became the official state flower of California in 1903. It has cup-shaped flowers in brilliant shades of red, orange and yellow. Flowers close up in rainy or cloudy weather and at night. But will be open and bright in the Wetlands on a sunny day.</p>
<p><b>Aquatic animal (CA Sea Hare)</b></p>	<p>These marine snails (although they look more like sea slugs) are easily recognizable with their mottled brown bodies and two tentacles (rhinophores) on the top of their head that resemble the ears of a hare. Look for them feeding on algae in shallow water. If disturbed they produce a toxic ink to deter and escape from predators.</p>	<p><b>White Sage</b></p>	<p>White sage leaves are petite in size and have a silvery, frosted green color. The White sage plant produces light purple and bluish flowers that are highly aromatic. These are an important food and medicinal plant for the Indigenous Tongva and Acjachemen Peoples. The White Sage is still used today for the same purposes.</p>