Ecological Patterns

BINGO

Life occupying a crack or edge space	Deep roots reshaping their surroundings	Something invisible but essential	A visible response to feedback	Something that did not survive
An inter-dependency that is not immediately obvious	Insects interacting with plants or fungi	Redundancy (a back up system)	A visible system boundary or transition	A visible flow of energy or resources
Repeated natural structures	Regrowth after damage or disruption		Nutrient sharing	An extractive relationship
One species dominating or crowding out another	A space serving multiple purposes	A recovery process underway	Opportunistic growth	A response to scarcity
A distributed network	Nutrient build-up in one place	One living entity physically supporting another	New growth emerging from decay	A sign of stress or warning signal

INSTRUCTIONS

Your task is to observe and document ecological patterns within a natural system. Using your phone, find and photograph real-world examples of as many of the listed patterns as you can.

RULES

- You must photograph nature. Nature may interact with human-made structures, but the focus must be on living systems or ecological processes. Built infrastructure alone does not count.
- The same organism may not be used to represent more than two different patterns.
- Each photograph must clearly represent the pattern listed. Be prepared to explain your reasoning.

AFTER WE RETURN

You will be asked to share five findings (ideally forming a bingo line) with another pair.

For each one:

- Share the photo
- Explain what you observed
- Describe how it represents the pattern

CHEAT CODE

Consider including a Post-it note with the name of the pattern visible in each photograph.

This will make it easier to organise and present your findings later.

WORDS OF WISDOM

Trust your observation first. Avoid looking up definitions while in the field.

There is not always a single correct answer. What matters is your ability to identify and explain the pattern you see.

Slow down. Look closely.

You are not collecting objects: you are identifying patterns.