

A YEAR OF SURVIVAL GAME GUIDE

OBJECTIVE

4-6 players will work together to survive as a group of hunter-gatherers in Ice-Age Texas.

COMPONENTS

- 1 Active Player card
- 48 food cards
- 40 item cards

BEFORE YOU BEGIN: TYPES OF CARDS

There are two types of cards: item cards and food cards. Both of these have different sub-types of cards.

ITEM CARDS: There are six types of item cards: weapons, traps, tools, packs, skills, and knowledge.

- Weapons, traps, tools, and packs each have their own symbol and color associated with them that is the same across all cards of that type (i.e., a spear and an atlatl are different cards, but both fall under the weapon category, so will both have a blue circle with the same icon in it).
 - Skill cards are split between two categories. When used, the player that used the card may select only one of the two colors.
 - Knowledge cards are wild and can be played for an item in any category.
 - The icons seen on the item cards will be used to fulfill requirements on food cards. Food cards will feature the same icons as item cards, but will represent which item cards have to be spent to collect them.
- NOTE:** the atlatl and travois cards count for two item cards in their respective categories.



FOOD CARDS: There are three types of food cards: hunt, gather, and ambush. These card types are spread across three seasons: spring, summer, and autumn.

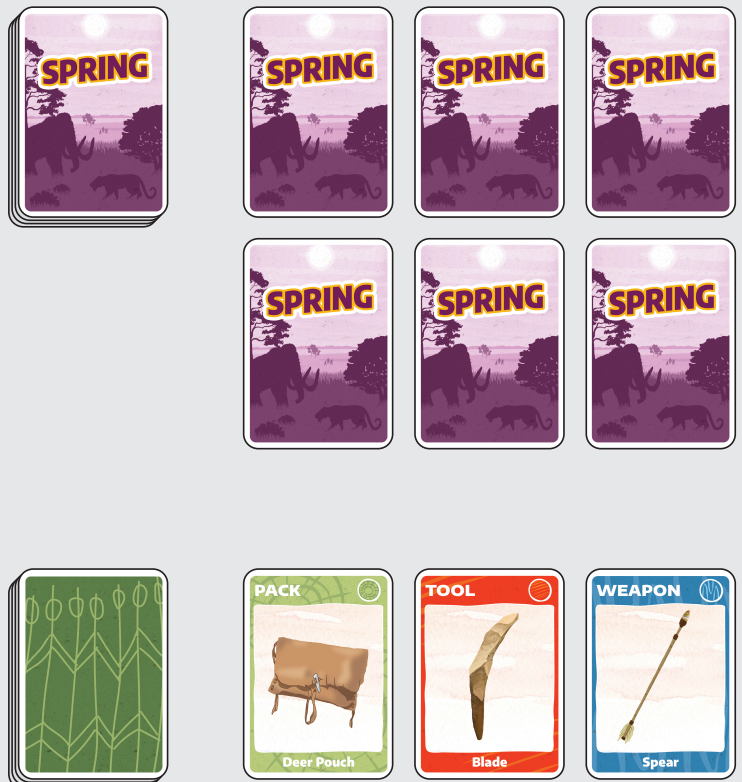
- Each food card, regardless of type, has a different number of required items depending on the season. Food cards in spring require four item cards, summer cards require five, and autumn requires six. The only exception is ambush cards, which always require six items regardless of the season. The symbols on the food cards show which item cards the players need to play from their hand in order to succeed on the food card.
- Hunt and gather cards are very similar. The main differences are the point values and the item cards required for victory. Hunt cards are a little tougher to gain than gather cards and are worth more points. The icons pictured on these cards are unique to the specific organism featured, to reflect the techniques used to collect them.
- The mammoth card is the only card in which one of the cards played **MUST** be a knowledge (wild) card.
- Ambush cards function differently than the other food cards. When an ambush is revealed in an “explore”



action, players must deal with it immediately and may not choose any other card. **IF THE AMBUSH IS FAILED**, all players must discard one item from their hand. The Active Player dies from the battle, and their hand is distributed clockwise to the rest of the players. Then discard all face-up food cards. On their next turn, the player that died can reenter the game by crafting items. **IF THE AMBUSH IS SUCCEEDED**, players may take the face-up food card with the lowest point value.

ALMOST READY: THE SETUP

- Shuffle each seasonal sections of the food cards, keeping them separate from one another.
- Once shuffled, create the deck by placing the autumn section on the bottom, then the summer section in the middle, and the spring section on top.
- Deal six food cards face down in two rows of three cards each and place the deck on the left side of the cards dealt.
- Shuffle the item cards and deal four cards face up to each player.
- Deal three face up in one row, and place the deck face down to the left of the cards dealt.
- The player with the most recent birthday will play first and should be handed the Active Player card.



BEGIN! GAME PLAY

The game is played in turns, with each player taking one action on their turn. Players should work together to decide which action is best for the group. There are three possible actions a player may take: explore, craft, or scout.

EXPLORE: The Active Player may choose to go on an expedition to gain food.

To do this, the Active Player first decides to go on a short, medium, or long expedition. If they choose to go on a short expedition, they flip the two cards closest to the food deck. For a medium expedition, they flip over the four closest. For a long expedition, all food cards are flipped over.

Then, all players discuss which food card they would like to attempt to gain. The final decision is made by the Active Player. Once a food card has been decided on, players play an item card from their hand to try and meet the requirements of the food card. The Active Player is the only

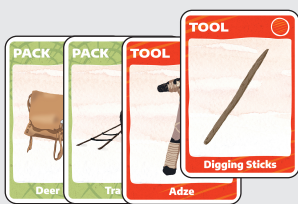
player required to play an item card at first, however, it will be necessary for all players to play cards as difficulty increases.

After checking to see if the group succeeds or fails, discard all food cards that were flipped over but not chosen. On a success, add the chosen card to your victory pile. On a failure, discard it with the others. After the expedition concludes, replace all discarded cards with more face down food cards. If the current season runs out of cards that can be used to replenish, wait to replace the food cards until all of the cards from the current season have been discarded or won before replacing with the new season.



Example: Medium Expedition

On Peter's turn, he decides to go on a medium expedition. He flips over the first and second columns, revealing the cards to the group. He sees a rabbit and a bison. After talking with the group, Peter leads the group on a hunt against the rabbit. Everyone plays an item card that helps satisfy the requirements on the rabbit. They succeed and add the rabbit to the food pile. The food cards that were revealed but not chosen are discarded. The two remaining face down cards slide to the left, and four more cards are placed face down.



Player 1 (Peter)



Player 2



Player 3



Player 4

CRAFT: The Active Player may choose to gain up to two item cards. To do this, they may take any combination of two item cards, either from the deck or the row. After a player takes their item cards, discard the two food cards furthest from the deck. Slide the remaining food cards to

the right, and replenish the two spots closest to the deck. Replace any taken item cards from the dealt cards with cards from the item deck. If the item deck runs out of cards, shuffle the discarded item cards that have already been used to remake the deck.

Example: Craft

On Peter's turn, he decides to craft an item to help later. He decides to take one of the face up cards, a spear, and take the top card of the draw deck into his hand. After doing this, he discards the two food cards in the column furthest from the draw deck.

SCOUT: If a player chooses to scout ahead, they must discard the top-left most card from the food cards and replenish it (if possible) before scouting. Then, they choose

any two cards and flip them face up. After all the players have seen them, flip them back over to be face down.

Example: Scout

On Peter's turn, he decides to scout. First, he discards the top left card and replaces it. Then, he picks any two food cards in the grid and flips them over, revealing them to the group. He then flips them back over and ends his turn.

Play proceeds with each player taking one of these three actions, then passing the Active Player card to the next player. At the end of each season, count your score. Your group must exceed a set point threshold at the end of spring and summer (4 points before the end of spring and 6 points before the end of summer) to be successful.

If your group does NOT accomplish this, each player loses one card and the Active Player "dies" of starvation. Their cards are distributed clockwise to the rest of the group.

This does not apply to the autumn deck; once it is finished and the last food cards are discarded, the game ends and all points are counted.

SCORING

At the end of the game, count up the point values of all earned food cards and consult the following:

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| 0 to 9 points | You did not collect enough food. Your group completely starves and dies. |
| 10 to 14 points | You are a bit short on food. It is a very rough winter and most everyone scrapes by, but not without a couple losses. |
| 15 to 19 points | You have collected enough food! Everyone survives. |
| 20+ points | You have collected an abundance of food. Everyone has full bellies and this is the most prosperous season your group has ever had! |