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# Woodland Happy Families (GC05)

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Please retain these instructions for future reference. These instructions are also available in other formats.

## General description

The pack consists of 44 cards made up of 11 Woodland Families. Each family comprises father, mother, son and daughter. With these cards it is possible to play the normal Happy Families game, and a recent addition which will be referred to as the New Game, full particulars of which are detailed below. Only the 'family sets' of cards are brailled; the rules and sample picture cards of other card games from Pepys series are not.

## The "Happy Families" game

The object of this game is to collect firstly, the single cards to make up one complete family and then to collect complete families until one player holds ALL the cards.

All cards should be shuffled and dealt.

The dealer decides which cards he/she lacks to make up families with the cards in their own hand. They then ask any player if he/she holds a particular card, (example, Master Squirrel, Miss Mouse, etc). If the dealer has been fortunate in his request and the player holds the card it must be handed over. The dealer continues to ask for cards from any player, but if a player who is asked for a card cannot produce it, the play passes to that player, who then proceeds to ask for cards from any of the others.

As families are collected, the four cards are placed together face down in front of the player who collects the family. After all the families are collected the game continues by asking for complete families and the player who eventually holds all the families is the winner. When a player has no cards left, he/she must drop out of the game.

### "Please" and "thank you" rules

All requests for cards must be prefixed by the word "Please" (eg, "Please have you Mrs Frog?") and if the word "Please" is not used the play passes to the player approached.

When a card is handed over it must be acknowledged by "Thank You" and if this is not done immediately, the player handing over the card can ask for one back remembering of course, to say "Please" and "Thank You".

The player on the left of the dealer deals for the next round.

## The New Game

The game can be played by two, three or four players and the object is to make up as many families as possible and to dispose of the cards in your hands as quickly as possible.

Shuffle the cards and if there are four players deal seven cards to each player; for three players deal eight cards to each player, for two players deal 10 cards to each player. The remainder of the pack is then placed face downwards in the centre of the table; the top card being face upwards beside the stack of un-dealt cards.

Play commences by the player on the left of the dealer picking up the top card from the pack or the exposed card. If he has a father card of any of the families, it must now be placed face upwards on the table. If he has no father card the play passes to the player on his left.

The following players can either add to the families already on the table or place another father card on the table.

As the father cards are played they should be placed in a row so other family members can be added later. Father cards must be played alone and not as part of a sequence.

Members of families must be played in the following order: 1. father, 2. mother, 3. son, 4. daughter, but a player is allowed to lay down more than one card at a time provided they are of the same family and in their correct order as given above (this is called a sequence). The first player can lay a sequence if he/she holds one. Each player picks up a card before laying one down. If he chooses the exposed card the next top card from the pack must be exposed in its place.

The player who completes a family claims it as his "trick" and marks his score card accordingly.

When all the spare cards have been picked up the game is played with the cards in your hand.

It may be worthwhile to build up a sequence in your hand before laying down the cards in order to earn the higher award for a trick, but each player in their turn must play at least one card if they have one which can be played.

A player can hold back a father card to prevent the others following on with that particular family, provided they have at least one other card he/she can play, but it must be remembered that they run the risk of the higher penalties if the game finishes before he can play the cards he is holding back.

## Scoring

The player who completes a family with a sequence of three cards (eg. places mother, son and daughter together on the father), scores six, if he completes the family with the son and daughter he scores five, if he completes the family with the daughter, he scores four.

The player who first disposes of all his cards scores five. This is in addition to the score he/she earns if their last card or cards completed a family.

## Penalties

When a round is won, the other players are penalised for the cards still held, father minus four, mother minus three, son minus two, daughter minus one.

## How to contact RNIB

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Registered Charity No. 226227

Date: September 2018

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