



Round End

Once each player has had their turn, follow the round end steps to complete the round.

Reveal

Reveal the top Event Card and follow its directions. If this occurs at the end of round 5 or later, the Event Card might also be the game end card.

Discard

Discard cards so no player has more than 7 cards in their Hand. This is rarely needed, but helps maintain the balance of the game.

Reset

Reset the Face-Up Cards in the centre by moving them to the discard pile and setting up new Face-Up Cards from the Deck (Face-Up Cards equal the number of players + 2).

Rotate

Rotate the first player by passing the First Player Card clockwise. This ensures that the players gets the choice of new Face-Up Cards equally.

Game End

The game ends randomly once the “Fishing Season Closed” card is revealed.

This can happen randomly any time after the end of round 5. Now count your points.

Firstly count the points displayed next to the size of each fish in your Ice Box. Make sure you keep the orientation of each fish in your Ice Box correct.

Then count the points in your Fishing Spot, each Larval, Juvenile and Medium fish remaining in your Fishing Spot is worth 1 point and each Big Fish in your Fishing Spot is worth 2 points.

Add your points together to get your total score. The player with the most points wins Big Fish and is crowned the #1 Fisher!

Hard Mode



For an extra challenge, once you have played through Big Fish, take note that some fish have a small Bag Icon next to their name. This means that they have a bag limit and therefore only 1 of these fish is allowed to be caught per player per game.

About the Game

Big Fish are gone

Overfishing has removed most of the big fish. Advances in fishing gear and technology allows the catching of fish that were not previously accessible. Both recreational and commercial fishing has contributed to the disappearance of big fish.

Big Fish can return

Many fish grow fast, which means that with adequate measures we can bring them back in a few decades. Sustainable fishing and maximum size limits can help the recovery of big fish. No-take marine protected areas are essential for full fish and ecosystem restoration and resilience.

Big Fish are important

They are often more reproductive and spawn longer.

They can often survive better through various changes and challenges.

They help control and balance the ecosystem.

Big Fish Team

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Art and Design

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How to play

Setup

Big Fish



Shuffle all Fish Cards and Wild Cards together into the Draw Deck, deal each player 7 cards then place the Draw Deck in the middle of the play area.

From the Draw Deck, draw cards equal to the number of players +2 and place them face-up in the middle of the play area. These are the Face-Up Cards.

Draw Deck



Face-up Cards



A 5 player game draw pile and face-up cards setup

Next take the Event Deck and set the “Fishing Season Closed” card to the side.

Shuffle the remaining Event Cards. Take 4 Event Cards and put them to the side, shuffle the “Fishing Season Closed” card into the rest of the Event Deck.

Then place the four removed Event Cards on top. Place the Event Deck in the centre of the play area. This setup means the game will end randomly at any time after the first 5 rounds.

Fishing Season Closed



Event Deck



Identify a large clear space in front of each player - this will be their Fishing Spot.

At the start of the game each player places up to 3 fish from their hand into their Fishing Spot: 1 as a Big Fish, 1 as a Medium Fish and, 1 as a Juvenile Fish. If the player does not have three fish in their hand, they must place the Big Fish first.



An example of a setup Fishing Spot where the player has 1 Big Fish, 1 Medium Fish and, 1 Juvenile Fish. See the section on Fish Size section for more information